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SACRED BOOKS OF THE EAST

TRANSLATED
By VARIOUS ORIENTAL SCHOLARS

AND EDITED BY
F. MAX MÜLLER

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THE
ŚATAPATHA—BRĀHMANA

ACCORDING TO THE TEXT OF THE

MĀDHYANDINA SCHOOL

TRANSLATED BY
JULIUS EGGELING

PART IV
BOOKS VIII, IX AND X

MOTILAL BANARSIDASS
DELHI :: PATNA :: VARANASI

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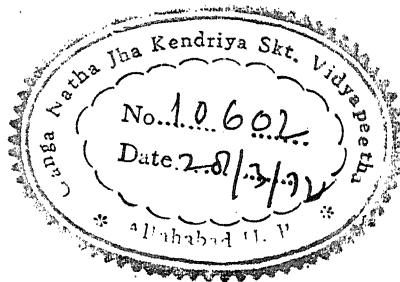
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I am very glad to know that the Sacred Books of the East, published years ago by the Clarendon Press, Oxford, which have been out-of-print for a number of years, will now be available to all students of religion and philosophy. The enterprise of the publishers is commendable and I hope the books will be widely read.

S. RADHAKRISHNAN

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

First, the man distinguished between eternal and perishable. Later he discovered within himself the germ of the Eternal. This discovery was an epoch in the history of the human mind and the *East was the first to discover it*.

To watch in the Sacred Books of the East the dawn of this religious consciousness of man, must always remain one of the most inspiring and hallowing sights in the whole history of the world. In order to have a solid foundation for a comparative study of the Religions of the East, we must have before all things, complete and thoroughly faithful translation of their Sacred Books in which some of the ancient sayings were preserved because they were so true and so striking that they could not be forgotten. They contained eternal truths, expressed for the first time in human language.

With profoundest reverence for Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, President of India, who inspired us for the task; our deep sense of gratitude for Dr. C. D. Deshmukh & Dr. D. S. Kothari, for encouraging assistance; esteemed appreciation of UNESCO for the warm endorsement of the cause; and finally with indebtedness to Dr. H. Rau, Director, Max Müller Bhawan, New Delhi, in procuring us the texts of the Series for reprint, we humbly conclude.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE present volume completes the exposition of the *Agnikāyana*, or construction of the sacred Fire-altar. Whilst to the general reader the section of the *Brāhmaṇa* treating of this ceremony, and extending over no less than five of its fourteen *kāṇḍas*—or rather more than one-third of the whole—will probably appear the least inviting part of the work, a special interest attaches to this ceremony, and the dogmatic explanation of its details, for the student of Indian antiquity. The complicated ritual of the Fire-altar, as has been pointed out before¹, does not seem to have formed part of the original sacrificial system, but was probably developed independently of it, and incorporated with it at a comparatively recent period. There seems, indeed, some reason to believe that it was elaborated with a definite object in view, viz. that of making the external rites and ceremonies of the sacrificial cult the practical devotional expression of certain dominant speculative theories of the time. As a matter of fact, the dogmatic exposition of no other part of the sacrificial ceremonial reflects so fully and so faithfully as that of the *Agnikāyana* those cosmogonic and theosophic theories which form a characteristic feature of the *Brāhmaṇa* period. In the present work, that section commences with a cosmogonic account so elaborate as is hardly to be met with anywhere else in the *Brāhmaṇa* literature; and throughout the course of performance the symbolic import of its details is

¹ See part i, introduction, p. xxxi.

explained here, as in other Brāhmaṇas, on the lines of those cosmogonic speculations.

When, towards the close of the period represented by the Vedic hymns, inquiring minds began to look beyond the elemental gods of the traditional belief for some ulterior source of mundane life and existence, the conception of a supreme, primordial being, the creator of the universe, became the favourite topic of speculation. We accordingly find different poets of that age singing of this uncreate being under different names,—they call him Visvakarman, the 'All-worker'; or Hiranyagarbha, the 'golden Embryo'; or Puruṣa, the 'Person'; or Ka, the 'Who?'; or the heavenly Gandharva Viśvāvasu, 'All-wealth'; or Pragāpati, the 'Lord of Creatures.' Or they have recourse to a somewhat older figure of the Pantheon, likewise of abstract conception, and call him Brahmanaspati¹, the Lord of prayer or devotion; a figure which would naturally commend itself to the priestly mind, and which, indeed, in a later phase of Hindu religion, came to supply not only the name of the abstract, impersonal form of the deity, the world-spirit, but also that of the first of its three personal forms, the creator of the Hindu triad. Amongst these and other names by which the supreme deity is thus designated in the philosophic hymns of the *R̥g* and Atharva-veda, the name of Pragāpati, the Lord of Creatures or generation, plays a very important part in the immediately succeeding period of literature, viz. that of the Brāhmaṇas.

In the so-called Puruṣa-hymn (*R̥g*-veda X, 90), in which the supreme spirit is conceived of as *the* Person or Man (Puruṣa), born in the beginning, and consisting of 'whatsoever hath been and whatsoever shall be,' the creation of the visible and invisible universe is represented as originating from an 'all-offered' sacrifice² (*yagña*) in which the Puruṣa himself forms the offering-material (*havis*), or, as one might

¹ Cf. *R̥g*-veda X, 22, 2.

² That is to say, a sacrifice at which not only portions of the sacrificial dish, or the victim, are offered up to the deities, but where every single part of it is offered.

say, the victim. In this primeval—or rather timeless, because ever-proceeding—sacrifice, Time itself, in the shape of its unit, the Year, is made to take its part, inasmuch as the three seasons, spring, summer, and autumn, of which it consists, constitute the ghee, the offering-fuel, and the oblation respectively. These speculations may be said to have formed the foundation on which the theory of the sacrifice, as propounded in the *Brāhmaṇas*, has been reared. *Pragāpati*, who here takes the place of the *Purusha*, the world-man, or all-embracing Personality, is offered up anew in every sacrifice; and inasmuch as the very dismemberment of the Lord of Creatures, which took place at that archetypal sacrifice, was in itself the creation of the universe, so every sacrifice is also a repetition of that first creative act. Thus the periodical sacrifice is nothing else than a microcosmic representation of the ever-proceeding destruction and renewal of all cosmic life and matter. The theologians of the *Brāhmaṇas* go, however, an important step further by identifying the performer, or patron, of the sacrifice—the Sacrificer—with *Pragāpati*; and it is this identification which may perhaps furnish us with a clue to the reason why the authors of the *Brāhmaṇas* came to fix upon '*Pragāpati*' as the name of the supreme spirit. The name 'Lord of Creatures' is, no doubt, in itself a perfectly appropriate one for the author of all creation and generation; but seeing that the peculiar doctrine of the *Purusha-sūkta* imparted such a decisive direction to subsequent dogmatic speculation, it might seem rather strange that the name there chosen to designate the supreme being should have been discarded, only to be employed occasionally, and then mostly with a somewhat different application¹. On the other hand, the term '*Pragāpati*' was manifestly a

¹ In its original sense it occurs at the beginning of the *Agnīkayana* section, VI, 1, 1, 2-5, in connection with what might almost be regarded as an exposition of the *Purusha-sūkta*. The seven original *purushas* out of which *the Purusha* comes to be compacted, are apparently intended to account for the existence of the seven *Rīshis* (explained in the *Brāhmaṇas* as representing the vital airs) prior to the creation of the one *Purusha*. It would seem that they themselves previously composed the as yet uncorporeal *Purusha*.

singularly convenient one for the identification of the Sacrificer with the supreme 'Lord of Creatures'; for, doubtless, men who could afford to have great and costly sacrifices, such as those of the Srauta ceremonial, performed for them—if they were not themselves Brāhmans, in which case the term might not be inappropriate either—would almost invariably be 'Lords of Creatures,' i.e. rulers of men and possessors of cattle, whether they were mighty kings, or petty rulers, or landed proprietors, or chiefs of clans. It may be remarked, in this respect, that there is in the language of the Brāhmaṇas a constant play on the word 'pragā' (progenies), which in one place means 'creature' in general, whilst in another it has the sense of 'people, subjects,' and in yet another the even more restricted one of 'offspring or family.'

How far this identification of the human Sacrificer with the divine Pragāpati goes back, and whether, when first adopted, it was applied at once to the whole of the sacrificial system, or whether it rather originated with a certain restricted group of ritualists in connection with some limited portion of the ceremonial such as the Agnikāyana, and became subsequently part and parcel of the sacrificial theory, it would probably not be easy to determine. As regards the symbolic connection of the Sacrificer himself with the sacrifice, there can at any rate be no doubt that it was an essential and an intimate one from the very beginning of the sacrificial practice. When a man offers to the gods their favourite food, it is in order to please them and to gain some special object of his own,—either to make them strong and inclined for fighting his battles, and to secure their help for some undertaking of his or against some danger by which he is threatened; or to deprecate their wrath at some offence he knows or fancies he has committed against them; or to thank them for past favours, with an eye, it may be, to new and still greater favours to come. Gradually, however, the connection becomes a subtler and more mystic one; the notion of substitution enters into the sacrifice? it is in lieu of his own self that man makes the

offering. This notion is a familiar one to the theologians of the *Brāhmaṇas*, either in the sense that the oblation is sent up to the gods in order to prepare the way for the Sacrificer, and secure a place for him in heaven; or in the sense that along with the burnt-offering the human body of the Sacrificer is mystically consumed, and a new, divine body prepared to serve him in the celestial abodes. Intimately connected with this latter notion we find another, introduced rather vaguely, which makes the sacrifice a mystic union in which the Sacrificer generates from out of the Vedi (f.), or altar-ground, his future, divine self. In this respect Agni, the offering-fire, also appears as the mate of Vedi¹; but it will be seen that Agni himself is but another form of the divine and the human *Pragâpati*.

With the introduction of the *Pragâpati* theory into the sacrificial metaphysics, theological speculation takes a higher flight, developing features not unlike, in some respects, to those of Gnostic philosophy. From a mere act of piety, and of practical, if mystic, significance to the person, or persons, immediately concerned, the sacrifice—in the esoteric view of the metaphysician, at least—becomes an event of cosmic significance. By offering up his own self in sacrifice, *Pragâpati* becomes dismembered; and all those separated limbs and faculties of his come to form the universe,—all that exists, from the gods and *Asuras* (the children of Father *Pragâpati*) down to the worm, the blade of grass, and the smallest particle of inert matter. It requires a new, and ever new, sacrifice to build the dismembered Lord of Creatures up again, and restore him so as to enable him to offer himself up again and again, and renew the universe, and thus keep up the uninterrupted revolution of time and matter. The idea of the dismembered *Pragâpati*, and of this or that sacrificial act being required to complete and replenish him, occurs throughout the lucubrations of the *Brāhmaṇas*; but in the exposition of the ordinary forms of sacrifice, this element can hardly be considered as

¹ See I, 2, 3, 15-16. From the woman Vedi (otherwise representing the earth) creatures generally are produced; cf. III, 5, 1, 11.

one of vital importance ; whilst in the Agnikāyana, on the contrary, it is of the very essence of the whole performance. Indeed, it seems to me by no means unlikely that the Purusha-Pragāpati dogma was first practically developed in connection with the ceremony of the Fire-altar¹, and that, along with the admission of the latter into the regular sacrificial ceremonial, it was worked into the sacrificial theory generally. In the Agnikāyana section (Kānda VI-X), as has already been stated², Sāṇḍilya is referred to as the chief authority in doctrinal matters, whilst in the remaining portions of the Brāhmana, that place of honour is assigned to Yāgyavalkya. Now, it may be worthy of notice, in connection with this question of the Pragāpati dogma, that in the list of successive teachers³ appended to the Agnikāyana section, the transmission of the sacrificial science—or rather of the science of the Fire-altar, for the list can only refer to that section—is traced from Sāṇḍilya upwards to Tura Kāvasheya, who is stated to have received it from Pragāpati; the Lord of Creatures, on his part, having received it from the (impersonal) Brahman. Does not this look almost like a distinct avowal of Sāṇḍilya and his spiritual predecessors being answerable for having introduced the doctrine of the identity of Pragāpati and the sacrifice into the sacrificial philosophy? If such be the case, the adaptation of this theory to the dogmatic explanation of the other parts of the ceremonial, as far as the Satapatha-Brāhmana is concerned, might be supposed to have been carried out about the time of Saṃgivi-putra, when the union of the two lines of teachers seems to have taken place⁴. But seeing that the tenth Kānda, called the Mystery, or secret doctrine, of the Fire-altar, was apparently not at first included in the sacrificial canon of the Vāga-

¹ VI, 2, 21, 'This performance (of the Agnikāyana) assuredly belongs to Pragāpati, for it is Pragāpati he undertakes (to construct) by this performance.'

² Part I, introduction, p. xxxi.

³ For this *Vamśa*, as well as that appended to the last book of the Brāhmana, see *ibid.* p. xxxiii, note I.

⁴ *Ibid.* p. xxxiv; Max Müller, *History of Ancient Sanskrit Literature*, p. 437.

saneyins¹, the mystic speculations in which that section so freely indulges would seem to have been left apart from the regular canon, along with other floating material which was not considered suitable for practical purposes, or indispensable for an intelligent appreciation of the hidden import of the sacrificial rites.

Once granted that the real purport of all sacrificial performances is the restoration of the dismembered Lord of Creatures, and the reconstruction of the All, it cannot be denied that, of all ceremonial observances, the building of the great Fire-altar was the one most admirably adapted for this grand symbolic purpose. The very magnitude of the structure;—nay, its practically illimitable extent², coupled with the immense number of single objects—mostly bricks of various kinds—of which it is composed, cannot but offer sufficiently favourable conditions for contriving what might fairly pass for a miniature representation of at least the visible universe. The very name ‘Agni,’ by which the Fire-altar is invariably designated, indicates from the very outset an identification of cardinal importance—that of Pragâpati with Agni, the god of fire, and the sacrifice. It is a natural enough identification; for, as Pragâpati is the arch-sacrificer, so Agni is the divine sacrificer, the priest of the sacrifice. Hence the constantly occurring triad—Pragâpati, Agni, and (the human) Sacrificer. The identity of the altar and the sacred fire which is ultimately to be placed thereon is throughout insisted upon. Side by side with the forming and baking of the bricks for the altar takes place the process of shaping and baking the fire-pan (ukhâ). During the year over which the building of the altar is spread, the sacred fire is carried about in the pan by the Sacrificer for a certain time each day. In the same way as the layers of the altar are arranged so as to represent earth, air, and heaven, so the fire-pan is fashioned in such a way as to be a miniature copy of the three worlds³. But, while this identity is never lost sight of, it is not an absolute

¹ Ibid. p. xxxii.

² See X, 2, 3, 17-18; 2, 4, 1 seqq.; 4, 3, 5-8.

³ VI, 5, 2, 1 seq.; VII, 1, 2, 7-9.

one, but rather one which seems to hold good only for this special sacrificial performance. Though it may be that we have to look upon this identification as a serious attempt to raise Agni, the divine priest, to the position of a supreme deity, the creator of the universe, such a design seems nowhere to be expressed in clear and unmistakeable terms. Nor are the relations between the two deities always defined consistently. Pragâpati is *the* god above all other gods; he is the thirty-fourth god, and includes all the gods (which Agni does likewise); he is the three worlds as well as the fourth world beyond them¹. Whilst, thus, he is the universe, Agni is the child of the universe, the (cosmic) waters being the womb from which he springs². Whence a lotus-leaf is placed at the bottom of the fire-altar to represent the waters and the womb from which Agni-Pragâpati and the human Sacrificer are to be born. Agni is both the father and the son of Pragâpati: 'inasmuch as Pragâpati created Agni, he is Agni's father; and inasmuch as Agni restored him, Agni is his father³'. Yet the two are separate; for Pragâpati covets Agni's forms,—forms (such as Îsâna, the lord; Mahân Deva^h, the great god; Pasupati, the lord of beasts) which are indeed desirable enough for a supreme Lord of Creatures to possess, and which might well induce Pragâpati to take up Agni within his own self. Though, in accordance with an older conception, Agni is still the light or regent of the earth, as Vâyu, the wind, is that of the air, and the sun that of the heavens; it is now explained that really these are but three forms of the one Agni,—that Agni's splendour in heaven is Âditya, that in the air Vâyu, and that on earth the (sacrificial) fire⁴. When Pragâpati is dismembered, Agni takes unto himself the escaping fiery spirit of the god; and when he is set up again, Agni becomes the right arm, as Indra becomes the left one, of the Lord of Creatures. Upon the whole, however, the peculiar relations between the two gods may perhaps be defined best in accordance with the

¹ IV, 6, 1, 4.² VI, 1, 2, 26.³ VI, 8, 2, 4-6.⁴ VI, 7, 4, 4; VII, 1, 1, 22-23.

passage already referred to :—Agni is created by Pragâpati, and he subsequently restores Pragâpati by giving up his own body (the fire-altar) to build up anew the dismembered Lord of Creatures, and by entering into him with his own fiery spirit,—‘whence, while being Pragâpati, they yet call him Agni.’

The shape adopted for the altar is that of some large bird—probably an eagle or a falcon—flying towards the east, the gate of heaven. Not that this is the form in which Pragâpati is invariably conceived. On the contrary, he is frequently imagined in the form of a man, and symbolic features are often applied to him which could only fit, or would best fit, a human body. But, being the embodiment of all things, Pragâpati naturally possesses all forms; whence the shape of a four-footed animal is likewise occasionally applied to the altar¹. It was, doubtless, both traditional imagery and practical considerations which told in favour of the shape actually chosen. Pragâpati is the sacrifice and the food of the gods²; and Soma, the drink of immortality and at the same time the Moon, is *the* divine food or offering *κατ’ ἐξοχήν*, the *uttamam havis*³, or *paramâhuti*⁴; or supreme oblation: hence Pragâpati is Soma⁵. But Soma was brought down from heaven by the bird-shaped Gâyatrî; and the sacrifice itself is fashioned like a bird⁶. In one passage⁷, certain authorities are referred to as making the altar (Agni) take the form of a bird in order to carry the Sacrificer to heaven; but the author himself there insists dogmatically on the traditional connection of the altar with Pragâpati: that it was by assuming that form that the vital airs became Pragâpati⁸; and that in that

¹ See, for instance, VIII, 1, 4, 3.

² V, 1, 1, 2.

³ *Rîg-veda* IX, 107, 1.

⁴ *Sat. Br.* VI, 6, 3, 7.

⁵ See, for instance, VI, 2, 2, 16; X, 4, 2, 1.

⁶ IV, 1, 2, 25.

⁷ VI, 1, 2, 36; cf. XI, 4, 1, 16.

⁸ This can only refer to the cosmological statement at the beginning of the same *Kânda*, where the seven *Rîshis*, or vital airs, are said to have combined to form the bird-shaped Purusha or Pragâpati. Though nothing is said there of their having themselves been shaped like birds, this might perhaps be inferred from the use of the term ‘*purusha*’ with reference to them. In the *Purusha-sûkta* nothing whatever is said of a birdlike form, either in regard to the *Rîshis*,

form he created the gods who, on their part, became immortal by assuming the birdlike form—and apparently flying up to heaven, which would seem to imply that the Sacrificer himself is to fly up to heaven in form of the bird-shaped altar, there to become immortal. It is not, however, only with the Moon, amongst heavenly luminaries, that Pragāpati is identified, but also with the Sun; for the latter, as we have seen, is but one of the three forms of Agni, and the fire on the great altar is itself the Sun¹; whilst the notion of the sun being fashioned like a bird flying through space is not an unfamiliar one to the poets of the Vedic age. More familiar, however, to the authors of the Brāhmaṇas, as it is more in keeping with the mystic origin of Pragāpati, is the identification of the latter, not with the solar orb itself, but with the man (purusha) in the sun, the real shedder of light and life. This gold man plays an important part in the speculations of the Agnirahasya², where he is represented as identical with the man (purusha) in the (right) eye—the individualised Purusha, as it were; whilst his counterpart in the Fire-altar is the solid gold man (purusha) laid down, below the centre of the first layer, on a gold plate, representing the sun, lying itself on the lotus-leaf already referred to as the womb whence Agni springs. And this gold man in the altar, then, is no other than Agni-Pragāpati and the Sacrificer: above him—in the first, third, and fifth layers—lie the three naturally-perforated bricks, representing the three worlds through which he will have to pass on his way to the fourth, invisible, world, the realm of immortal life. We thus meet here again with the hallowed, old name of the Lord of Being, only to be made use of for new mystic combinations.

As the personified totality of all being, Pragāpati, however, not only represents the phenomena and aspects of space, but also those of time,—he is Father Time. But just as, in the material process of building up the Fire-altar, the infinite dimensions of space require to be reduced to

or the Purusha; the latter being, on the contrary, imagined in the form of a gigantic man.

¹ VI, 1, 2, 20; 3, 1, 25.

² X, 5, 2, 1 seqq.

finite proportions, so, in regard to time, the year, as the lowest complete revolution of time, is taken to represent the Lord of Creation :—he is Father Year ; and accordingly Agni, the Fire-altar, takes a full year to complete. And, in the same way, Agni, the sacrificial fire, from the time of his being generated in the fire-pan, as the womb, requires to be carried about by the Sacrificer for a whole year, to be matured by him before the child Agni can be born and placed on the Fire-altar. The reason why the Sacrificer must do so is, of course, that Agni, being the child of the universe—that is of Pragâpati and the Sacrificer,—the latter, at the time when the fire is kindled in the fire-pan, has, as it were, to take Agni within his own self¹, and has afterwards to produce him from out of his own self when mature.

But whilst, in regard to Agni-Pragâpati, the year during which the altar is erected represents the infinitude of time, to the mortal Sacrificer it will not be so until he shall have departed this life ; and, as a rule, he would probably not be anxious there and then to end his earthly career. Nor is such an effort of renunciation demanded of him, but, on the contrary, the sacrificial theory holds out to the pious performer of this holy ceremony the prospect of his living up to the full extent of the perfect man's life, a hundred years ; this term of years being thus recognised as another unit of time, so to speak, viz. that of a complete lifetime. Yet, be it sooner or be it later, the life of every creature comes to an end ; and since time works its havoc on all material existence, and carries off generation after generation, the Supreme Lord of generation, Father Time, as he is the giver of all life, so he is likewise that ender of all things—Death. And so the Sacrificer, as the human counterpart of the Lord of Creatures, with the end of his present life, becomes himself Death,—Death ceases to have power over him, and he is for ever removed from the life of material existence, trouble, and illusion, to the realms of light and everlasting bliss.

¹ VII, 4, 1, 1.

And here we get the Supreme Lord in his last aspect ; nay, his one true and real aspect, in which the Sacrificer will himself come to share,—that of pure intellectuality, pure spirituality,—he is Mind : such is the ultimate source of being, the one Self, the Purusha, the Brahman. The author of the Mystery of Agni attempts to reveal the process of evolution by which this one true Self, through sacrifice carried on by means of the Arka-fires of his own innate fervour and devotion, comes to manifest himself in the material universe ; and—as the sum total of the wisdom of *Sāṇḍilya*—he urges upon the searcher after truth to meditate on that Self, made up of intelligence, and endowed with a body of spirit, a form of light, and an etherial nature, . . . holding sway over all the regions and pervading this All, being itself speechless and devoid of mental affects ;—and bids him believe that ‘ even as a grain of rice, or the smallest granule of millet, so is the golden Purusha in the heart ; even as a smokeless light, it is greater than the sky, greater than the ether, greater than the earth, greater than all existing things ; that Self of the spirit is my Self : on passing away from hence I shall obtain that Self. And, verily, whosoever has this trust, for him there is no uncertainty.’

As the practical application of the Agni-Pragāpati mystery to the sacrificial ritual consists mainly in the erection of the Fire-altar and the ceremonies connected with the fire-pan, which fell almost entirely within the province of the Adhvaryu priest, it is naturally in his text-books, in the Yagur-veda, that the mystic theory has become fully elaborated. Yet, though the two other classes of priests, the Hotris and Udgātṛis¹, take, upon the whole, a comparatively subsidiary part in the year’s performance symbolising the reconstruction of the Lord of Creatures, they have found another solemn opportunity, subsequently to the completion of the Fire-altar, for making up for any

¹ They take part, however, in such ceremonies as the doing homage to the completed Fire-altar by means of the *Parimāds* ; cf. p. 288, note 2 of this volume.

shortcomings in this respect, viz. the Mahâvrata, or Great Rite.

The brick altar, when complete, might apparently be used at once for any kind of Soma-sacrifice¹; but whether, if this were to be merely a one-day performance, it might be made a Mahâvrata day (in which case it must be an Agnishôma), seems somewhat doubtful². As a rule, however, at any rate, the Mahâvrata was performed in connection, not with an ekâha or ahîna, but with a sacrificial session (sattra); and since sacrificial sessions, it would seem, could only be undertaken by Brâhmans who would at the same time be the Sacrificers—or rather Grîhapatis (masters of the house or householders) as the Sattrins are called—and their own officiating priests, the Mahâvrata would thus generally, if not invariably, be reserved for Brâhmans³. Indeed, in our Brâhmaṇa (IX, 5, 2, 12-13) the rule is laid down that no one may officiate for another person at the Agnikâyana, the Mahâvrata (sâman), and the Mahad Uktham; and dire consequences are predicted in the case of any one who does so;—‘for, indeed, these (rites) are his divine, immortal body; and he who performs them for another person, makes over to another his divine body, and a withered trunk is all that remains.’ And, though other authorities are then referred to who merely prescribe, as a penance for those who have officiated at these ceremonies for others, that they should either perform them for themselves or cause others to perform them again, the author

¹ Our Brâhmaṇa, X, 2, 5, 16, says that, if a man cannot press Soma for a year, he should perform the Visvagîr Atirâtra with all the Prishôhas, and at that performance he should give away all his property. These, however, were doubtless by no means the only alternatives.

² See, however, Sâyana on Ait. Âr. V, 1, 1, 1, where it is distinctly stated that the Mahâvrata may either be performed as an Ekâha, or as part of either an Ahîna, or a Sattra.—Kâtyâyana, XVI, 1, 2, lays down the rule that (though the building of an altar is not a necessary condition for the performance of a Soma-sacrifice) it is indispensable in the case of a Soma-sacrifice performed with the Mahâvrata.

³ That is to say, as Sacrificers. Persons of other castes of course took part in the proceedings of this day. In the various accounts of these proceedings, no alternative ceremonies seem anywhere referred to in case the Sacrificers themselves belong to different castes.

adheres to his opinion that there is no atonement for such an offence. There can be no doubt, however, that the Agniṣayana, at any rate, was not restricted to the Brâhmanical order¹; and this passage, if it does not merely record a former sacrificial practice, has probably to be understood in the sense that one must not officiate for another at an Agniṣayana which is to be followed by a Soma-sacrifice with the Mahâvrata. If the Sattrâ performed was one of the shortest kind, viz. a Dvâdarâha, or twelve days' performance—consisting of a Dasarâtra, preceded and followed by an Atirâtra—the Mahâvrata was inserted, it would seem, between the Dasarâtra and the final Atirâtra. Usually, however, the Sattrâ, like the Agniṣayana, lasted a full year; the favourite form being the 'Gavâm ayanam,' arranged, in accordance with the progress of the sun, in two halves, an ascending and a descending one; divided by a central day, the Vishuvat. The Mahâvrata was performed on the last day but one of the year, the day before the final Atirâtra, being itself preceded (as it was in the case of the Dvâdarâha) by a Dasarâtra, or ten days' performance. Now, the chief feature of the Mahâvrata day is the chanting,—in connection with a special cup of Soma-juice, the Mahâvratîya-graha—of the Mahâvrata-sâman², as the Hotri's *Prishṭha*-stotra at the midday service; this chant being followed by the recitation of the Mahad Uktham³, or Great Litany, by the Hotri. The special feature, however, of these two ceremonies, which recalls the mystic Agni-Pragâpati doctrine, is the supposed birdlike form of both the chant and the litany. The Lord of Creatures, as the embodiment of all things, also represents the 'trayî vidyâ,' or sacred threefold science, the Veda. Accordingly, the Stomas (hymn-forms) of the single Sâmans (chanted

¹ See, for instance, Sat. Br. VI, 6, 3, 12-15, where directions are given as to certain alternatives of performance at the initiation ceremony in case the Sacrificer is either a Kshatriya, or a Purohita, or any other person. The ceremonies connected with the consecration of the Sacrificer (IX, 3, 4, 1 seqq.) point chiefly to a king.

² See p. 282, note 5 of the present volume.

³ See notes to pp. 110-113 of this volume.

verses) composing the Stotra or hymn of praise (the Mahâvrata-sâman), on the one hand, and the verses and metres of the recited litany, on the other, are so arranged and explained as to make up the different parts of a bird's body. It need scarcely be remarked that, whilst in the case of the altar the task of bringing out at least a rough resemblance to a flying bird offered no great difficulties, it is altogether beyond the capabilities of vocal performances such as the chant and the recitation of hymns and detached verses. But the very fact that this symbolism is only a matter of definition and make-believe, makes it all the more characteristic of the great hold, which the Pragâpati theory had gained upon the sacerdotal mind.

The question, as to whether these compositions themselves might seem to show any signs of comparatively recent introduction of this symbolism requires further investigation before it can be answered. Of the Mahâvrata-sâman we have virtually a single version, with only indications of certain substitutions which may be made in the choice of texts and tunes; the parts of the bird's body represented by the single Sâmans being in the order—head, right wing, left wing, tail, and trunk. Of the Mahad Uktham, on the other hand, we possess two different versions, those of the Aitareya and the Sâṅkhâya schools of *Rîg-veda* theologians. Both of them start with the hymns representing the trunk of the bird; but otherwise there is so marked a difference between them, both as to arrangement and the choice of verses and hymns, that it seems pretty clear that, whilst there must have existed already a certain traditional form of the litany when these two schools separated, it was not yet of a sufficiently settled character to prevent such serious discrepancies to arise as those exhibited by the two rituals. This point being, however, of too technical a nature to be entered upon in this place, its further investigation must be reserved for some other opportunity.

SATAPATHA-BRÂHMANA.

EIGHTH KÂNDĀ.

THE BUILDING OF THE SACRED FIRE-ALTAR

(continued).

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FIRST LAYER

(continued).

FIRST ADHYÂYA. FIRST BRÂHMANA.

1. He lays down the *Prânabhrítah* (breath-holders)¹: now, the *Prânabhrítah* being the vital

¹ The construction of the first of the five layers of the altar which, as far as the special bricks are concerned, is now nearing its completion, may be briefly recapitulated here. The altar (*agni*) is constructed in the form of a bird, the body (*âtman*) of which consists of a square, usually measuring four man's lengths, or forty feet (Indian=c. 30 ft. Engl.) on each side. The ground of the 'body' having been ploughed, watered, and sown with seeds of all kinds of herbs, a square mound, the so-called *uttaravedi*, measuring a *yuga* (yoke=7 ft. Ind.) on each side, is thrown up in the middle of the 'body,' and the whole of the latter then made level with it. In the centre of the 'body' thus raised, where the two 'spines'—connecting the middle of each of the four sides of the square with that of the opposite side—meet, the priest puts down a lotus-leaf, and thereon the gold plate (a symbol of the sun) which the Sacrificer wore round his neck during the time of initiation. On this plate he then lays a small gold figure of a man (representing *Agni-Prâgâpati*, as well as the Sacrificer himself), so as to lie on his back with the head towards the east; and beside him he places two offering-spoons, one on each side, filled with ghee and sour curds

airs, it is the vital airs he thereby bestows upon (Agni). He lays them down in the first layer;—that which is the first layer is the forepart (ground-part) of Agni: it is thus in front that he puts (into Agni) the vital airs, whence there are (in creatures) these (orifices of the) vital airs in front.

respectively. Upon the man he then places a brick with naturally-formed holes in it (or a porous stone), a so-called *Svayam-âtrinâ* (self-perforated one), of which there are three in the altar, viz. in the centre of the first, third, and fifth layers, supposed to represent the earth, air, and sky respectively, and by their holes to allow the Sacrificer (in effigy) to breathe, and ultimately to pass through on his way to the eternal abodes. On this stone he lays down a plant of *dûrvâ* grass—with the root lying on the brick, and the twigs hanging down—meant to represent vegetation on earth, and food for the Sacrificer. Thereupon he puts down in front (east) of the central stone, on the 'spine,' a *Dviyagus* brick; in front of that, on both sides of the spine, two *Retaḥsik*; then in front of them, one *Visvagyotis*; then again two *Ritavyâḥ*; and finally the *Ashâdhâ*, representing the Sacrificer's consecrated consort. These bricks, each of which is a *pada* (foot, Ind.) square, occupy nearly one-third of the line from the centre to the middle of the front side of the 'body' of the altar. South and north of the *Ashâdhâ*, leaving the space of two bricks, he places a live tortoise, facing the gold man, and a wooden mortar and pestle respectively. On the mortar he places the *ukhâ*, or fire-pan, filled with sand and milk; and thereon the heads of the five victims, after chips of gold have been thrust into their mouths, nostrils, eyes, and ears. At each of the four ends of the two 'spines' he then puts down five *Apasyâḥ* bricks, the middle one lying on the spine itself, with two on each side of it. The last set of five bricks, those laid down at the north (or left) end of the 'cross-spine,' are also called *Khandasyâḥ* by the Brâhmana. He now proceeds to lay down the *Prânabhrîtâḥ*, meant to represent the orifices of the vital airs, in five sets of ten bricks each. The first four sets are placed on the four diagonals connecting the centre with the four corners of the body of the altar, beginning from the corner (? or, according to some, optionally from the centre), in the order S.E., N.W., S.W., N.E.; the fifth set being then laid down round the central stone at the distance (or, on the range) of the *retaḥsik* bricks. See the diagram at p. 17.

2. He lays them down by ten and ten, for there are ten vital airs; and even though 'ten-ten' may mean many times, here they mean only ten. Five times he puts on ten (bricks) each time; for it is those five (kinds of sacrificial) animals he bestows, and there are ten vital airs in each animal: upon all of them he thus bestows the vital airs. He lays down (the bricks) so as not to be separated from the animals: he thus bestows vital airs not separated from the animals. He lays them down on every side: on every side he thus bestows on them (orifices of) the vital airs.

3. And again why he lays down the *Prānabhrītāḥ*. From *Pragāpati*, when relaxed (by producing creatures), the vital airs departed. To them, having become deities, he spake, 'Come ye to me, return ye unto me that wherewith ye have gone out of me!' — 'Well then, create thou that food which we will await here looking on!' — 'Well then, let us both create!' — 'So be it!' — So both the final airs and *Pragāpati* created that food, these *Prānabhrīt* (bricks).

4. In front (of the altar) he lays down (ten bricks¹, — the first) with (*Vāg. S. XIII, 54*), 'This one in front, the Existent,' — in front, doubtless, is Agni: and as to why he speaks of him (as being) 'in front,' it is because they take out the fire (from the *Gārhapatya*) towards the front, and attend on Agni towards the front². And as to why he says 'the

¹ Whilst standing in front (east) of the altar, he puts down the first set of ten bricks on the line from the south-west corner (or right shoulder) of the altar towards the centre. The formulas with which each set of ten bricks are deposited are spread over three paragraphs, the first of which gives that of the first brick, the second those for two to eight, the third for the last two.

² Viz. in taking out the fire from the *Gārhapatya* and transferring

existent (bhuva),¹ Agni is indeed the existent, for it is through Agni that everything exists (bhû) here. Agni, indeed, having become the breath, remained in front¹: it is that very form² he now bestows (on Agni).

5. [The others with], 'His, the Existent's son, the Breath,'—from out of that form, fire, he (Pragâpati) fashioned the breath;—'Spring, the son of the breath,'—from out of the breath he fashioned the spring-season³;—'The Gâyatrî, the daughter of the Spring,'—from out of the spring-season he fashioned the Gâyatrî metre;—'From the Gâyatrî the Gâyatra,'—from out of the Gâyatrî metre he fashioned the Gâyatra⁴ hymn-tune;—'From the Gâyatra the Upâmsu,'—from out of the Gâyatra hymn-tune he fashioned the Upâmsu-graha⁵,

it to the Âhavanîya, as well as in approaching the sacrificial fire for offering. It should also be borne in mind that the altar (agni) is built in form of an eagle flying towards the east, or front.

¹ See VII, 5, 1, 7, 'The breath is taken in from the front backwards.'—In the text 'prâno hâgnir bhûtvâ purastât tasthau,' I take 'prânaḥ' to be the predicate.

² At VII, 4, 1, 16, the vital air is called Pragâpati's (Agni's) pleasing form (or part).

³ For a similar connection of the East with the Gâyatrî, the Rathantara, the Trivṛt, the Spring, and the Brahman (priesthood) see V, 4, 1, 3, (part iii, p. 91).

⁴ The Gâyatra-sâman is the simplest, and by far the most common of all hymn-tunes. It is especially used in connection with the trivṛt-stoma, or nine-versed hymn, and is invariably employed for the Bahishpavamâna-stotra. It is also the tune of the first triplet both of the Mâdhyandina and Ârbhava-pavamâna; as well as for all the four Âgya-stotras.

⁵ See part ii, pp. 238 seqq., where this soma-cup is repeatedly connected with the Gâyatrî. Though its pressing is performed by three turns of eight, eleven, and twelve beatings respectively, representing the three chief metres, it is expressly stated (IV, 1, 1, 14)

'From the Upâmsu the Trivṛit,'—from out of the Upâmsu-graha he fashioned the nine-versed hymn-form;—'From the Trivṛit the Rathantara,'—from out of the Trivṛit-stoma he fashioned the Rathantara-prishtha¹.

6. 'The Rishi Vasishtha²,'—the Rishi Vasishtha, doubtless, is the breath: inasmuch as it is the chief (thing) therefore it is Vasishtha (the most excellent); or inasmuch as it abides (with living beings) as the best abider (vāstri), therefore also it is Vasishtha.—'By thee, taken by Pragâpati,'—that is, 'by thee, created by Pragâpati,'—'I take breath for my descendants (and people)!'—therewith he introduced the breath from the front. Separately he lays down (these ten bricks): what separate desires there are in the breath, those he thereby lays into it. Only once he settles them³: he thereby makes it one breath; but were he to settle them each separately, he assuredly would cut the breath asunder. This brick is trivṛit (three-fold): the formula, the settling, and the sâdadohas⁴, that is threefold, and threefold is Agni,—as great as

that he who is desirous of obtaining holiness, should press eight times at each turn.

¹ For this and the other Prishtha-sâmans see part iii, introd. pp. xvi, xx seqq.

² In Taitt. S. IV, 3, 2, 1, this formula is connected with the preceding one,—'from the Rathantara (was produced) the Rishi Vasishtha.' Similarly in the corresponding passages of the subsequent sets of bricks.

³ The sâdana, or settling, consists in the formula, 'By that deity, Âṅgiras-like, lie thou steady!' being pronounced over the bricks. See VI, 1, 2, 28.

⁴ For the sâdadohas verse, the pronunciation of which, together with the 'settling,' constitutes the two necessary (nitya) ceremonies, see part iii, p. 307.

Agni is, as great as is his measure, so much he lays down (on the altar) by so doing.

7. And on the right (south) side¹, with (Vâg. S. XIII, 55), 'This one on the right, the all-worker,'—the all-worker (visvakarman), doubtless, is this Vâyu (the wind) who blows here, for it is he that makes everything here; and because he speaks of him as (being) 'on the right,' therefore it is in the south that he blows most. Vâyu, indeed, having become the mind, remained in the right side (of the body): it is that form (part) he now bestows (on Agni).

8. 'His, the all-worker's child, the Mind,'—from out of that (all-working) form, the wind, he fashioned the mind;—'the summer, the son of the mind,'—from out of the mind he fashioned the summer season²;—'the Trishṭubh, the daughter of Summer,'—from out of the summer season he fashioned the Trishṭubh metre;—'from the Trishṭubh the Svâra tune,'—from out of the Trishṭubh metre he created the Svâra hymn-tune³;—'from

¹ Whilst standing on the right (south) side of the altar he lays down the third set of ten *Prâṇabhṛitah*, viz. those on the diagonal from the south-west corner (or right thigh) towards the centre. Whilst, in the actual performance, these bricks are only laid down after those referred to in paragraphs 1-3 of the next *Brâhmana*, the author, in his explanation of the formulas, follows the course of the sun from left to right.

² For a similar combination of the south with the Trishṭubh metre, the *Bṛhat-sâman*, the *Pañkadara-stoma*, the summer season, and the *Kshatra*, see V, 4, 1, 4 (part iii, p. 91).

³ *Svâra-sâman* is called a chanted verse which has no special concluding *nidhana*, or finale, but in which the *svarita* (circumflex), or first rising then falling pitch (e.g., f-g-f) of the final vowel, takes the place of the finale; whence 'svâra' is often explained by 'svaranidhana,' i.e. having the *svara* (*svarita*) for its *nidhana*. See

the Svāra the Antaryāma,—from out of the Svāra-sāman he fashioned the Antaryāma-graha;—‘from the Antaryāma the Pañkadasa,’—from out of the Antaryāma-cup he fashioned the fifteen-versed hymn-form;—‘from the Pañkadasa the Brīhat,’—from out of the Pañkadasa-stoma he fashioned the Brīhat-prishtha.

9. ‘The Rishi Bharadvāga,’—the Rishi Bharadvāga, doubtless, is the mind;—‘vāga’ means ‘food,’ and he who possesses a mind, possesses (bharati) food, ‘vāga;’ therefore the Rishi Bharadvāga is the mind.—‘By thee, taken by Pragâpati,’—that is, ‘by thee, created by Pragâpati;’—‘I take the mind for my descendants!’—therewith he introduced the mind from the right side. Separately he lays down (these ten bricks): what separate desires there are in the mind, those he thereby lays into it. Only once he settles them: he thereby makes it one mind; but were he to settle them each separately,

Pañk. Br. IX, 3, 11, where a svāra-sāman is prescribed in case the Udgātṛis have previously committed an excess in their chanting. The last tristich of the Mādhyandina-pavamānastotra of the Agni-sh/oma, the Ausana-sāman (to Sāma-v., vol. ii, pp. 27–29), is chanted in this way, probably in order to make good the excess committed in the preceding triplet, the Yaudhāgaya (ii, pp. 25, 26), in which each verse is chanted with three nidhanas, one at the end, and two inserted inside the sāman. Lāṭy. Srautas. VI, 9, 6, the svāra-sāmans thus treated are called ‘padānusvārāṇi;’ whilst those with which the musical syllables ‘hā-i’ are used with a similar effect, are called ‘hāikārasvārāṇi.’ As an instance of the former, the Ausana (Sāma-v., vol. iii, p. 81) is adduced, and of the latter the Vāmadevyā (iii, p. 89). It is not only the final syllable of a sāman, however, that may be modulated in this way, but also that of a musical section of the sāman; cf. Pañk. Br. X, 12, 2, where the Udgītha is to be so treated to make up for the preceding Prastāva, chanted without a Stobha. Sacrificial calls such as the ‘Svāhā’ and ‘Vashat’ are also modulated in this way,’ ib. VII, 3, 26; XI, 5, 26.

he assuredly would cut asunder the mind. This brick is threefold: the meaning of this has been explained.

SECOND BRÂHMANA.

1. And at the back (western part of the altar), with (Vâg. S. XIII, 56), 'This one behind, the all-embracer;—the all-embracer, doubtless, is yonder sun, for as soon as¹ he rises, all this embracing space comes into existence. And because he speaks of him as (being) 'behind,' therefore one sees him only when he goes towards the back (west). The Sun, indeed, having become the eye, remained behind: it is that form he now bestows (on Agni).

2. 'His, the all-embracer's child, the Eye,'—from out of that (all-embracing) form, the Sun, he fashioned the eye;—'the rains, the offspring of the eye,'—from out of the eye he fashioned the rainy season;—'the *Gagati*, the daughter of the rains,'—from out of the rainy season he fashioned the *Gagati* metre;—'from the *Gagati* the *Rik-sama*,'—from out of the *Gagati* metre he fashioned the *Riksama* hymn-tune²;—'from the *Riksama*

¹ Or, perhaps, 'only when' (yadâ-eva).

² No explanation of this *sâman* has been found anywhere. *Sâyana*, on the corresponding formula, *Taitt. S. IV, 3, 4, 2* (where the term is spelt *rikshama*), merely remarks that it is 'a kind of *sâman*.' The meaning of the term 'similar to a *rik*' would seem to indicate a hymn-tune involving little, or no, modification of the text chanted to it. At *V, 4, 1, 5* it is the *Vairûpa-sâman* which (together with the *Gagati*, the *Saptadâsa-stoma*, the rainy season, and the *Vis*) is in this way connected with the West. Now the textual parts of the *Pañkanidhanam Vairûpam* (*Sâma-v.*, vol. v, pp. 387, 575-6), ordinarily used as a *prîshtha-sâman*, show

the Sukra,'—from out of the *Riksama-sâman* he fashioned the Sukra-graha;—'from the Sukra the Saptadasa,'—from out of the Sukra cup he fashioned the seventeen-versed hymn-form;—'from the Saptadasa the Vairûpa,'—from out of the Saptadasa-stoma he fashioned the Vairûpa-*prishtha*.

3. 'The *Rishi Gamadagni*,'—the *Rishi Gamadagni*, doubtless, is the eye: inasmuch as thereby the world of the living (*gagat*) sees and thinks, therefore the *Rishi Gamadagni* is the eye.—'By thee, taken by *Pragâpati*,'—that is, 'by thee, created by *Pragâpati*,'—'I take the eye for my descendants,' therewith he introduced the eye from behind. Separately he lays down (these ten bricks): what separate desires there are in the eye those he thereby lays into it. Only once he settles them: he thereby makes this eye one; but were he to settle them each separately, he assuredly would cut the eye asunder. This is a threefold brick: the meaning of this has been explained.

4. And on the left (upper, north) side, with (*Vâg. S. XIII, 57*), 'This, on the upper side, heaven,'—in the upper sphere, doubtless, are the regions (quarters); and as to why he speaks of them as being 'on the upper (left) side,' the regions, indeed,

hardly any modifications on the original verses (*Sâma-v.*, vol. ii, p. 278), even less so indeed than the simple Vairûpa-sâman (*Sâma-v.*, vol. i, p. 572), and possibly '*riksama*' (if it does not apply to a whole class of sâmans) may be another name for the Vairûpa (of which there are two other forms, *Sâma-v.*, vol. i, pp. 425, 438) in its simplest form. The Vairûpa, in its *prishtha* form, would in that case, indeed, have originated from the *Riksama-sâman*. It is true, however, that there is no special connection between the other *Prishtha-sâmans* and the respective hymn-tune with which they are symbolically connected in the foregoing formulas.

are above everything here. And as to why he says, 'heaven (or, the light),' the regions, indeed, are the heavenly world (or world of light). The regions, having become the ear, remained above: it is that form he now bestows (on Agni).

5. 'Its, heaven's, child, the Ear,'—from out of that form, the regions, he fashioned the ear;—'the autumn, the daughter of the ear,'—from out of the ear he fashioned the autumn season;—'Anushṭubh, the daughter of the autumn,'—from out of the autumn season he fashioned the Anushṭubh metre;—'from the Anushṭubh the Aida,'—from out of the Anushṭubh metre he fashioned the Aida-sâman¹;—'from the Aida the Manthin,'—from out of the Aida-sâman he fashioned the Manthin cup;—'from the Manthin the Ekavimsa,'—from out of the Manthin-graha he fashioned the twenty-one-versed hymn-form;—'from the Ekavimsa the Vairâga,'—from out of the Ekavimsa-stoma he fashioned the Vairâga-prishṭha.

6. 'The Rîshi Visvâmitra,'—the Rîshi Visvâmitra ('all-friend'), doubtless, is the ear: because therewith one hears in every direction, and because there is a friend (mitra) to it on every side, therefore the ear is the Rîshi Visvâmitra.—'By thee, taken by Pragâpati,'—that is, 'by thee, erected by Pragâpati,'—'I take the ear for my descendants,'

¹ Aida-sâmans are those sâmans which have the word 'idâ' for their nidhana, or chorus. Such sâmans are, e.g. the Vairûpa (Sâma-v., vol. v, p. 387) and the Raurava (iii, 83), the latter of which forms the central sâman of the Mâdhyandina-pavamâna-stotra. What connection there can be between the Aida and the Vairâga-prishṭha (Sâma-v., vol. v, p. 391; cf. vol. i, pp. 814-5) it is not easy to see. In Sat. Br. V, 4, 1, 6 the North is connected with the Anushṭubh, the Vairâga-sâman, the Ekavimsa and the autumn.

—therewith he introduced the ear from the left (or upper) side. Separately he lays down (these bricks): what separate desires there are in the ear, those he thereby lays into it. Only once he settles them: he thereby makes the ear one; but were he to settle them each separately, he assuredly would cut the ear asunder. This is a threefold brick: the meaning of this has been explained.

7. Then in the centre, with (Vâç. S. XIII, 58), 'This one, above, the mind,'—above, doubtless, is the moon; and as to why he speaks of him as (being) 'above,' the moon is indeed above; and as to why he says, 'the mind,' the mind (*mati*), doubtless, is speech, for by means of speech everything thinks (man) here¹. The moon, having become speech, remained above: it is that form he now bestows (on Agni).

8. 'Its, the mind's, daughter, Speech,'—from out of that form, the moon, he fashioned speech;—'Winter, the son of Speech,'—from out of speech he fashioned the winter season;—'Pañkti, the daughter of Winter,'—from out of the winter season he fashioned the Pañkti metre;—'from the Pañkti the Nidhanavat,'—from out of the Pañkti metre he fashioned the Nidhanavat-sâman²;—'from the Nidhanavat the Âgrayana,'—from out of the Nidhanavat-sâman he fashioned the Âgrayana cup;—'from the Âgrayana the Trinava and Trayastriṃsa,'—from out of the Âgrayana-graha he fashioned the thrice-nine-versed and the three-and-thirty-versed hymn-forms;—

¹ Or, perhaps, one thinks everything here.

² That is a sâman which has a special nidhana, or chorus, added at the end (or inserted in the middle) of it.

'from the *Trinava* and *Trayastrimsa* the *Sākvara* and *Raivata*,'—from out of the *Trinava* and *Trayastrimsa*-stomas he fashioned the *Sākvara* and *Raivata-prishthas*¹.

9. 'The *Rishi* *Visvakarman*,'—the *Rishi* *Visvakarman* ('the all-worker'), doubtless, is Speech, for by speech everything here is done: hence the *Rishi* *Visvakarman* is speech:—'By thee, taken by *Pragâpati*,'—that is, 'by thee, created by *Pragâpati*;'—'I take speech for my descendants,'—therewith he introduced speech from above. Separately he lays down (these bricks); what separate desires there are in speech, those he now lays into it. Only once he settles them: he thereby makes speech one; but were he to settle them each separately, he assuredly would cut speech asunder. This is a threefold brick: the meaning of this has been explained.

10. This, then, is that same food which both the vital airs and *Pragâpati* created: just so great indeed is the whole sacrifice, and the sacrifice is the food of the gods.

11. He lays them down by ten and ten,—of ten syllables consists the *Virâg* (metre), and the *Virâg* is all food: he thus bestows on him (*Agni*) the whole food. He puts them down on every side: on every side he thus bestows the whole food on him. And verily these same *Virâg* (verses) sustain those vital airs, and inasmuch as they sustain (*bhrî*) the vital airs (*prâna*) they are called *Prânabhrîtaḥ*.

¹ For these *Prishtha-sâmans* see part iii, introd. pp. xx-xxi. In V, 4, 1, 7 the upper region is symbolically connected with the *Pañkti* metre, the *Sākvara* and *Raivata-sâmans*, the *Trinava* and *Trayastrimsa*-stomas, and the winter and dewy seasons.

THIRD BRĀHMANA.

1. As to this they say, 'What are the vital airs (*prāṇa*), and what the *Prāṇabhṛitāḥ*?'—The vital airs are just the vital airs, and the *Prāṇabhṛitāḥ* (holders of the vital airs) are the limbs, for the limbs do hold the vital airs. But, indeed, the vital airs are the vital airs, and the *Prāṇabhṛit* is food. for food does uphold the vital airs.

2. As to this they say, 'How do all these (*Prāṇabhṛit*-bricks) of him (Agni and the Sacrificer) come to be of *Pragâpati*'s nature?'—Doubtless in that with all of them he says, 'By thee, taken by *Pragâpati*:' it is in this way, indeed, that they all come to be for him of *Pragâpati*'s nature¹.

3. As to this they say, 'As they chant and recite for the cup when drawn, wherefore, then, does he put in verses and hymn-tunes² before (the drawing of) the cups?'—Doubtless, the completion of the sacrificial work has to be kept in view;—now with the opening hymn-verse the cup is drawn; and on the verse (*rik*) the tune (*sâman*) is sung: this means that he thereby puts in for him (Agni) both the verses and hymn-tunes before (the drawing of) the cups. And when after (the drawing of) the cups there are the chanting (of the *Stotra*) and the recitation (of the *Sastra*): this means that thereby he puts in for him both the stomas (hymn-forms) and the *prishtha* (*sâmans*) after (the drawing of) the cups³.

¹ Or, come to be (Agni-) *Pragâpati*'s (*prâgâpatyâ bhavanti*).

² In laying down the different sets of *Prāṇabhṛit*-bricks the priest is said (in VIII, 1, 1, 5; 8; 2, 2; 5; 8) symbolically to put into the sacrificial work (or into the altar, Agni) both verses or metres (as *Gâyatrî*, *Trishubh*, &c.) and hymn-tunes (as *Gâyatra*, *Svâra*, &c.).

³ It is not quite clear whether this is the correct construction of

4. As to this they say, 'If these three are done together—the soma-cup, the chant, and the recitation,—and he puts in only the soma-cup and the chant, how comes the recitation also in this case to be put (into the sacrificial work) for him¹?' But, surely, what the chant is that is the recitation²; for on whatsoever (verses) they chant a tune, those same (verses) he (the Hotri) recites thereafter³; and in this way, indeed, the Sastra also comes in this case to be put in for him.

5. As to this they say, 'When he speaks first of three in the same way as of a father's son⁴, how, then, does this correspond as regards the *rik* and *sâman*?' The *sâman*, doubtless, is the husband of the

the text, especially as, in the paragraph referred to in the last note, it is not only the metres and tunes that are supposed to be put in along with the *Prâṇabhṛtāḥ*, but also the stomas and *prishtha-sâmans*.

¹ Only soma-cups (*graha*) and hymn-tunes (*sâman*) and hymn-forms (*stoma*) are specially named in connection with these bricks, but no sastras.

² Every stotra, chanted by the *Udgâtṛis*, is followed by a sastra recited by the Hotri or one of his assistants.

³ Most chants (stotra) consisting of a single triplet (e.g. the *Prishtha-stotras* at the midday service) have their text (*stotriya-trika*) included in the corresponding sastra recited by the Hotri, or one of the Hotrakas; it being followed, on its part, by the recitation of an analogous triplet (*anurûpa*, 'similar or corresponding,' i.e. antistrophe) usually commencing with the very same word, or words, as the *stotriya*.

⁴ As in the case of the first (south-west) set of bricks, VIII, 1, 1, 4-6, he puts down the first four with 'This one, in front, the existent,' 'His, the existent's son, the breath,' 'Spring, the son of the breath,' and 'The Gâyatrî, the daughter of spring,'—implying three generations from father to son (or daughter). In the formulas of the remaining bricks of each set referring to the metres (or verses, *rik*) and hymn-tunes (*sâman*) the statement of descent is expressed more vaguely by, 'From the Gâyatrî (is derived) the Gâyatra,' &c.

Rik; and hence were he also in their case to speak as of a father's son, it would be as if he spoke of him who is the husband, as of the son: therefore it corresponds as regards the *rik* and *sāman*. 'And why does he thrice carry on (the generation from father to son)?'—father, son, and grandson: it is these he thereby carries on; and therefore one and the same (man) offers (food) to them¹.

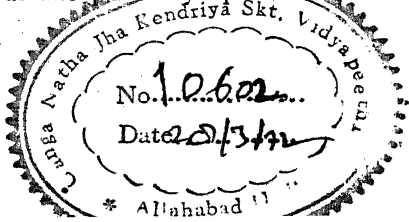
6. Those (bricks) which he lays down in front are the holders of the upward air (the breath, *prāna*); those behind are the eye-holders, the holders of the downward air (*apāna*)²; those on the right side are the mind-holders, the holders of the circulating air (*vyāna*); those on the left side are the ear-holders, the holders of the outward air (*udāna*); and those in the middle are the speech-holders, the holders of the pervading air (*samāna*).

7. Now the *Karakādhvaryus*, indeed, lay down different (bricks) as holders of the downward air, of the circulating air, of the outward air, of the pervading air, as eye-holders, mind-holders, ear-holders, and speech-holders; but let him not do this, for they do what is excessive, and in this (our) way, indeed, all those forms are laid (into Agni).

8. Now, when he has laid down (the bricks) in

¹ At the offerings to the Fathers, or deceased ancestors, oblations are made to the father, grandfather, and great-grandfather; see II, 4, 2, 23.

² *Sāyana*, on *Taitt. S. IV, 3, 3*, explains '*prāna*' by '*bahiḥsam-kārarūpa*,' and '*apāna*' by '*punarantaḥsamkārārūpa*;' see also part i, p. 120, note 2; but cp. *Maitry-up. II, 6*; H. Walter, *Haṭhayoga-pradīpikā*, p. xviii. Beside the fifty bricks called '*Prānabhṛtāḥ*,' the *Taittirīyas* also place fifty *Apānabhṛtāḥ* in the first layer of the altar.



front, he lays down those at the back (of the altar); for the upward air, becoming the downward air, passes along thus from the tips of the fingers; and the downward air, becoming the upward air, passes along thus from the tips of the toes: hence when, after laying down (the bricks) in front, he lays down those at the back, he thereby makes these two breathings continuous and connects them; whence these two breathings are continuous and connected.

9. And when he has laid down those on the right side, he lays down those on the left side; for the outward air, becoming the circulating air, passes along thus from the tips of the fingers¹; and the circulating air, becoming the outward air, passes along thus from the tips of the fingers¹; hence when, after laying down (the bricks) on the right side, he lays down those on the left side, he thereby makes these two breathings continuous and connects them; whence these two breathings are continuous and connected.

10. And those (bricks) which he lays down in the centre are the vital air; he lays them down on the range of the two *Retaḥsik* (bricks), for the *retaḥsik* are the ribs, and the ribs are the middle: he thus lays the vital air into him (Agni and the Sacrificer) in the very middle (of the body). On every side he lays down (the central bricks)²: in every part he thus

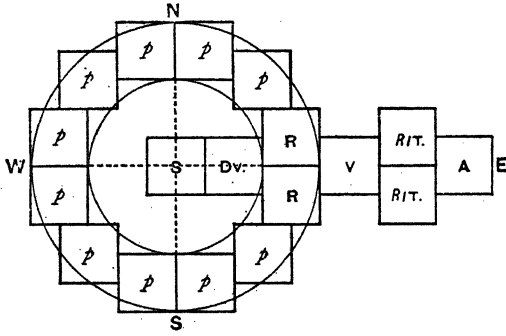
¹ ? Or, perhaps, the fingers and toes. The same word (*aṅguli*), having both meanings, makes it difficult exactly to understand these processes. The available MSS. of Harisvâmin's commentary unfortunately afford no help.

² That is to say, he lays down the fifth set round the (central) *Svayamâtrinnâ*, on the range of the two *Retaḥsik* bricks. It is,

lays vital air into him ; and in the same way indeed that intestinal breath (channel) is turned all round

however, not quite clear in what particular manner this fifth set of ten bricks is to be arranged round the centre so as to touch one another. The two *Retaḥsik* bricks, occupying each a space of a square foot north and south of the spine, are separated from the central (*Svayamātrimmā*) brick by the *Dviyagus* brick a foot square. The inner side of the *retaḥsik*-space would thus be a foot and a half, and their outer side two feet and a half, distant from the central point of the altar. The *retaḥsik* range, properly speaking, would thus consist of a circular rim, obtained by drawing two

THE CENTRAL PART OF THE FIRST LAYER.



concentric circles round the centre, with diameters of one and a half and two and a half feet respectively. On this rim (allowing for the corners of the bricks jutting out) room would have to be found for twelve bricks of a foot square, viz. the two *retaḥsik*, already lying on the eastern side, south and north of the spine, and ten *prāṇa-bhr̥ts*. The way in which these latter were arranged would probably be this: on each of the three other sides two bricks were laid down so as to join each other in a line with the respective 'spine,' similarly to the two *retaḥsik* bricks on the east side; and the four remaining bricks would then be placed in the four corners—the twelve bricks thus forming, as nearly as could be, a circular rim. In the construction of the altar, this *retaḥsik* range is determined by a cord being stretched from the centre to the east end of the altar, after the special bricks of the first layer have

the navel. He lays them down both lengthwise and crosswise¹, whence there are here in the body (channels of) the vital airs both lengthwise and crosswise. He lays them down touching each other: he thereby makes these vital airs continuous and connects them; whence these (channels of the) vital airs are continuous and connected.

FOURTH BRÂHMANA.

1. Now some lay down (these bricks) so as to be in contact with the (gold) man, for he is the vital air, and him these (bricks) sustain; and because they sustain (bhrî) the vital air (prâna), therefore they are called 'Prânabhrîtaḥ.' Let him not do so: the vital air is indeed the same as that gold man, but this body of his extends to as far here as this fire (altar) has been marked out. Hence to what-

been laid down, knots being then made in the cord over the middle of each of the special bricks. The *retaḥsik* range is consequently ascertained, in subsequent layers, by a circle drawn round the centre, with that part of the cord marked by the central and the *retaḥsik* knot for the diameter. The foregoing diagram shows that portion of the first layer which contains the continuous row of special bricks laid down first, viz. *Svayamâtrinnâ*, *Dviyagus*, two *Retaḥsik*, *Visvagyotis*, two *Ritavyâ*, and *Ashâdhâ*; and further the central (or fifth) set of ten *prânabhrîtaḥ*, placed round the central brick on the range of the *retaḥsik*.

¹ Each special brick is marked on its upper surface with (usually three) parallel lines. Now the bricks are always laid down in such a way that their lines run parallel to the adjoining spine, whence those on the east and west sides have their lines running lengthwise (west to east), and those on the north and south sides crosswise (north to south). As to the four corner bricks there is some uncertainty on this point, but if we may judge from the analogy of the second layer in this respect, the bricks of the south-east and north-west corners would be eastward-lined, and those of the north-east and south-west corners northward-lined.

ever limb of his these (breath-holders) were not to reach, that limb of his the vital air would not reach; and, to be sure, to whatever limb the vital air does not reach, that either dries up or withers away: let him therefore lay down these (bricks) so as to be in contact with the enclosing stones; and by those which he lays down in the middle this body of his is filled up, and they at least are not separated from him.

2. Here now they say, 'Whereas in (the formulas) "This one, in front, the existent—this one, on the right, the all-worker—this one, behind, the all-embracer—this, on the left, heaven—this one, above, the mind"—they (these bricks) are defined as exactly opposite the quarters, why, then, does he lay down these (bricks) in sidelong places¹?' Well, the *Prāṇabhṛitāḥ* are the vital airs; and if he were to place them exactly opposite the quarters, then this breath would only pass forward and backward; but inasmuch as he now lays down these (bricks) thus defined in sidelong places, therefore this breath, whilst being a backward and forward one, passes sideways along all the limbs and the whole body.

3. Now that Agni (the altar) is an animal, and (as such) he is even now made up whole and entire,—those (bricks) which he lays down in front are his fore-feet, and those behind are his thighs; and those

¹ That is to say, why does he not place them at the ends of the spines, but at the corners of the (square) body, i.e. in places intermediate between the lines running in the direction of the points of the compass? When speaking of the regions, or quarters, it should be borne in mind that they also include a fifth direction, viz. the perpendicular or vertical line (both upward and downward) at any given point of the plane.

which he places in the middle are that body of his. He places these in the region of the two *reta/sik* (bricks), for the *reta/sik* are the ribs, and the ribs are the middle, and that body is in the middle (of the limbs). He places them all round, for that body extends all round.

4. Here now they say, 'Whereas in the first (four) sets he lays down a single stoma and a single *prishtha* each time, why, then, does he lay down here (in the centre) two stomas and two *prishthas*?' Well, this (central set) is his (Agni's) body: he thus makes the body (trunk) the best, the largest, the most vigorous of limbs¹; whence that body is the best, the largest, and most vigorous of limbs.

5. Here now they say, 'How does that Agni of his become made up whole and entire in brick after brick?'—Well, the formula is the marrow, the brick the bone, the settling the flesh, the *sûdadhas* the skins, the formula of the *purisha* (fillings of earth) the hair, and the *purisha* the food: and thus indeed that Agni of his becomes made up whole and entire in brick after brick.

6. That Agni is possessed of all vital power: verily, whosoever knows that Agni to be possessed of all vital power (*âyus*), attains his full measure of life (*âyus*).

7. Now, then, as to the contraction and expansion (of the body). Now some cause the built (altar) in this way² to be possessed of (the power of) contraction and expansion: that Agni indeed is an animal;

¹ Or,—better, larger, and more vigorous than the limbs.

² Viz. by touching, or stroking along, the layer of the altar, and muttering the subsequent formulas.

and when an animal contracts and expands its limbs, it develops strength by them.

8. [Vâg. S. XXVII, 45] 'Thou art Samvatsara,—thou art Parivatsara,—thou art Idâvatsara,—thou art Idvatsara,—thou art Vatsara,—May thy dawns prosper¹!—may thy days and nights prosper!—may thy half-months prosper!—may thy months prosper!—may thy seasons prosper!—may thy year prosper!—For going and coming contract and expand thyself!—Of Eagle-build thou art: by that deity, Aṅgiras-like, lie thou steady²!'

9. Sâtyâyani also once said, 'Some one heard (the sound)³ of the cracking wings of the (altar) when touched with this (formula): let him therefore by all means touch it therewith!'

10. And Svargit Nâgnagita or Nagnagit, the Gândhâra, once said, 'Contraction and expansion surely are the breath, for in whatever part of the body there is breath that it both contracts and expands; let him breathe upon it from outside when completely built: he thereby lays breath, the (power of) contraction and expansion, into it, and so it contracts and expands.' But indeed what he there said as to that contraction and expansion, it was only one of the princely order who said it; and assuredly were they to breathe upon it from outside a hundred

¹ Or, perhaps, 'may the dawns chime in (fit in) with thee!'

² For this last part of the formula ('by that deity,' &c.), the so-called settling-formula, see part iii, p. 307, note 1.

³ Harisvâmin (Ind. Off. MS. 657) seems to supply 'śabdāṃ;' the sound of the cracking being taken as a sign of the powerful effect of the formula. Unfortunately, however, the MS. of the commentary is hopelessly incorrect.

times, or a thousand times, they could not lay breath into it. Whatever breath there is in the (main) body that alone is the breath: hence when he lays down the *Prâ nabhrîtaḥ* (breath-holders), he thereby lays breath, the (power of) contraction and expansion, into it; and so it contracts and expands. He then lays down two *Lokamprinâ* (bricks) in that corner¹; the meaning of them (will be explained) further on². He throws loose earth (on the layer): the meaning of this (will be explained) further on³.

THE SECOND LAYER.

SECOND ADHYÂYA. FIRST BRÂHMANA.

1. He lays down the second layer. For now the gods, having laid down the first layer, mounted it.

¹ Viz. in the south-east corner, or on the right shoulder, of the altar. From these two *lokamprinâs* (or space-fillers) he starts filling up, in two turns, the still available spaces of the 'body' of the altar, as also the whole of the two wings and the tail. For other particulars as to the way in which these are laid down, see VIII, 7, 2, 1 seqq. The 'body' of an ordinary altar requires in this layer 1028 *lokamprinâs* of three different kinds, viz. a foot (Ind.), half a foot, and a quarter of a foot square, occupying together a space of 321 square feet, whilst the 98 special (*yagushmatî*) bricks fill up a space of 79 square feet. Each wing requires 309 *lokamprinâs* of together 120 square feet; whilst the tail takes 283 such bricks, of together 110 square feet. The total number of *lokamprinâs* in the layer thus amounts to 1929 of all sizes, equal to 671 square feet. If (as is done in *Kâty. Srautas. XVII, 7, 21*) the 21 bricks of the *Gârhapatya* (part. iii, p. 304) are added to this number, the total number of *lokamprinâs* is 1,950. Similarly, in the second, third, and fourth layers; whilst the last layer requires about a thousand *lokamprinâs* more than any of the others, viz. 2,922, or, including the special hearths, 3,000. The total number of such bricks required—including the 21 of the *Gârhapatya*—amounts to 10,800. Cp. Weber, *Ind. Stud. XIII, p. 255*.

² See VIII, 7, 2, 1 seq.

³ See VIII, 7, 3, 1 seq.

But, indeed, the first layer is this (terrestrial) world : it is this same world which, when completed, they mounted.

2. They spake, 'Meditate ye!'—whereby, doubtless, they meant to say, 'Seek ye a layer! Seek ye (to build) from hence upwards!' Whilst meditating, they saw this second layer: what there is above the earth, and on this side of the atmosphere, that world was to their mind, as it were, unfirm and unsettled.

3. They said to the Asvins, 'Ye two are Brahmans and physicians: lay ye down for us this second layer!'—'What will therefrom accrue unto us?'—'Ye two shall be the Adhvaryus at this our Agnī-*kītyā*.'—'So be it!'—The Asvins laid down for them that second layer: whence they say, 'The Asvins are the Adhvaryus of the gods.'

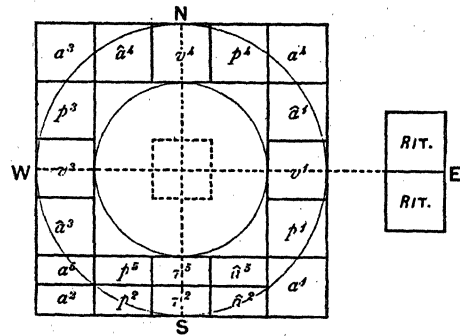
4. He lays down (the first *Āsvini*¹ brick, with

¹ The main portion of the special bricks of the second layer consists of five, or (if, for the nonce, we take the two southern sets of half-bricks as one) of four sets of four bricks each, or of together sixteen bricks, each measuring a foot square, placed on the range of the *reta/śiṭ* bricks so as to form the outer rim of a square measuring five feet on each side, and having in the middle a blank square of nine square feet. Each of the four sides of the *reta/śiṭ* rim contains a complete set of four bricks; but as there are five bricks on each side, the one in the left-hand corner (looking at them from the centre of the square) is counted along with the adjoining set. Each set, proceeding from left to right (that is, in sunwise fashion), consists of the following bricks,—*āsvini*, *vaiśva-devī*, *prāṇabhṛt*, and *apasyā*, the last of these occupying the corner spaces. The southern bricks consist, however, of two sets of half-bricks (running with their long sides from west to east), counted as the second and fifth set respectively. The eastern and western bricks are laid down so that their line-marks (which, in the case of the bricks of the second and fourth layers, are of an indefinite number) run from west to east; whilst those of the southern

Vâg. S. XIV, 1), 'Thou art firmly-founded, firmly-seated, firm!' for what is steady and settled, that is firm. Now that world was to their minds, as it were, unfirm and unsettled: having thereby made it firm, steady, they (the Asvins) went on laying down (bricks).—'Seat thee fitly in thy firm seat!'—that is, 'Seat thee fitly in thy steady seat;'—'enjoying the first appearance of the Ukhya,'—the Ukhya, doubtless, is this Agni; and that first layer is indeed his first appearance: thus, 'enjoying that,'—'May the Asvins, the Adhvaryus, settle you here!' for the Asvins, as Adhvaryus, did lay down (this brick).

and northern ones run from south to north. All the five bricks of each class, beginning with the âsvinîs, are laid down at the same time, proceeding again in sunwise fashion (east, south, &c.); the

THE CENTRAL PART OF THE SECOND LAYER.



order of the procedure being only interrupted by the two *Ritavyâ* bricks being laid down, immediately after the placing of the five âsvinî, exactly over the two *ritavyâs* of the first layer, that is to say in the fifth (easterly) space from the centre, north and south of the spine. The only other special bricks of the second layer are nineteen *vayasyâs* placed at the four ends of the two spines, viz. four in the east, and five in each of the other quarters.

5. [The second Āsvini he lays down, with Vāg. S. XIV, 2], 'Nest-like, fat, wise,'—a nest, as it were, is indeed the second layer¹;—'seat thee in the soft seat of the earth!'—the second layer, no doubt, is the earth: thus, 'Sit on her pleasant seat!'—'May the Rudras, the Vasus sing thy praises!'—that is, 'May those deities sing thy praises!'—'Replenish them, O Brahman, for happiness!'—that is, 'Favour them, O Brahman, with a view to happiness.'—'May the Asvins, the Adhvaryus, settle thee here!' for the Asvins, as Adhvaryus, did lay down (this brick).

* 6. [The third Āsvini brick he lays down, with Vāg. S. XIV, 3], 'By thine own powers seat thee here, a holder of powers,'—that is, 'By thy own energy seat thee here;'—'in the gods' favour for high joy!' that is, 'for the favour of the gods, for great joy²;'—'be thou kind, as a father to his son!'—that is, 'As a father is gentle, kind, to his son, so be thou kind!'—'rest thou readily accessible with thy form!'—the form, doubtless, is the body: thus, 'rest thou with readily accessible body!'—'May the Asvins, the Adhvaryus, settle thee here!' for the Asvins, as Adhvaryus, did lay down (this brick).

¹ This comparison doubtless refers to the way in which the central portion of the special bricks of this layer are arranged so as completely to enclose an empty space in the middle. In the first layer there was, no doubt, a similar enclosure of bricks as the *retaḥsik* range, but the central space was not left quite empty. In the end, however, the empty spaces are in both cases filled up by 'space-fillers.'

² The author seems to take 'raṇa' as an adjective (= *ramanīya*), as does Mahīdhara, who interprets the formula as meaning 'for the gods' great, cheerful happiness.'

7. [The fourth Āsvini he lays down, with Vāg. S. XIV, 4], 'Thou art the earth's soil-cover,'—the first layer, doubtless, is the earth, and this, the second (layer) is, as it were, its soil-cover (purīsha)—'her sap¹, in truth,'—that is, 'her essence, in truth,'—'May the All-gods sing thy praises!'—that is, 'May all the gods sing thy praises!'—'Seat thee here, laden with stomas, and rich in fat!'—whatever hymn-forms he will be spreading (constructing) thereon by them this (brick) is laden with stomas²;—'Gain for us by sacrifice wealth (dravinâ, pl.) with offspring (adj. sing.)!'—that is, 'Gain for us, by sacrifice, wealth (dravinam, sing.) with offspring!'—'May the Asvins, the Adhvaryus, settle thee here!' for the Asvins, as Adhvaryus, did lay down (this brick).

8. These (bricks) are those regions (quarters); he places them on the range of the two retasik (bricks), for the retasik are these two (worlds): he thereby places the regions within these two (worlds), whence there are regions within these two (worlds). He lays down (these bricks) in every direction: he thus places the regions in all (the four) directions, whence the regions are in all directions. [He places them] on all sides so as to face each other³: he thereby

¹ The word 'apsas,' which western philologists usually take to mean 'cheek,' is here apparently connected with 'ap,' water.

² Literally, 'having stomas on her back.' Mahidhara interprets 'stoma-prīṣhā' by 'possessed of stomas and Prīṣhās.' Sâyana, on Taitt. S. III, 7, 2, 7, by '(Prīṣhā)-stotras performed with stomas.'

³ 'Samyāṅk' may either mean 'tending to one and the same point,' or 'running in the same direction, parallel to each other.' It is probably in the former sense that we have to take it here, though not quite literally, but in so far as the line-marks of these

makes the regions on all sides face each other, and hence the regions on all sides face each other. He lays (the bricks) down separately, settles them separately, and pronounces the sūdadahas over them separately, for separate are the regions.

9. He then lays down the fifth regional (or Āsvini brick). Now that region is the one above¹; and that same region above, doubtless, is yonder sun: it is yonder sun he thus places thereon. He places this (brick) within the southern regional one²: he thus places yonder sun within the southern region, • and therefore he moves within the southern region.

10. [He lays it down, with Vāg. S. XIV, 5], 'I settle thee upon the back of Aditi,'—Aditi doubtless is this (earth): it is upon her, as a foundation, that he thus founds him (Agni);—'the holder

bricks, if continued towards the centre of the altar, intersect one another. As applied to the quarters this meaning would then modify itself to that of 'facing each other.' On the other hand, it is quite possible that the meaning of 'tending in the same direction' is the one intended; and it would in that case probably apply to the fact that the sets opposite to each other have their line-marks running in the same direction, or are parallel to each other; and this meaning would seem to be implied to the quarters where the author supports his argument by the fact that the wind blows, and the rain falls, in the same direction in all the four quarters (VIII, 2, 3, 2; 5). It is curious that the expression is used by the author in connection with the āsvinī, prāzabhṛt, and apasyā, but not with the vaisvadevī, the line-marks of which all meet in one central point, which is not the case with the others. At VIII, 3, 1, 11, on the other hand, it is used again in connection with the Dīryā bricks, which, in the third layer, occupy exactly the same spaces as the Vaisvadevīs do here.

¹ Or, that direction is the one upward (from here).

² That is to say, he places it immediately north of the southern āsvinī, so as to fill up the unoccupied, inner half of the space (of a foot square).

of the air, the supporter of the regions, the ruler of beings,—for he (the sun) is indeed the holder of the air, the supporter of the regions, and the ruler of beings;—‘thou art the wave, the drop, of water,’—the wave, doubtless, means the essence;—‘Visvakarman is thy *Rishi*!’—Visvakarman (the all-shaper), doubtless, is Pragâpati: thus, ‘Thou art fashioned by Pragâpati.’—‘May the Asvins, the Adhvaryus, settle thee here!’ for the Asvins, as Adhvaryus, did lay down (this brick).

11. Now as to why he lays down these Âsvini (bricks). When Pragâpati had become relaxed (dis-jointed), the deities took him and went away in different directions. Now what part of him there was above the feet and below the waist, that part of him the two Asvins took and kept going away from him.

12. He said to them, ‘Come to me and restore unto me that wherewith ye have gone away from me!’—‘What will accrue to us therefrom?’—‘That part of my body shall be sacred unto you!’—‘So be it!’ so the Asvins restored that (part) unto him.

13. Now these five Âsvini (bricks) are that same (part) of his (Agni’s) body; and when he now puts them into this (layer of the altar), he thereby restores to him what (part) of his body these (bricks) are: that is why he puts them into this (layer).

14. ‘Thou art firmly founded, firmly seated, firm,’ he says, for whatsoever is steady and established that is firm. Now that part of his (Pragâpati-Agni’s) body was, as it were, unsteady, unfirm; and having made it steady and firm they (the Asvins) restored it to him.

15. ‘Nestlike, fat, wise,’ he says, for this indeed

is as a nest for his body.—‘By thine own powers seat thee here, a holder of powers,’ he says, for they did make that (part) of him powerful.—‘Thou art the Earth’s soil-cover,’ he says, for that (lower part) of his body is, as it were, in connection with the soil-cover. At the range of the *Retaḥsik* (he places the bricks),—the *Retaḥsik* are the ribs, for level with the ribs, as it were, is that (part) of his body. He places them on every side, for on every side the *Asvins* restored that (part) of his (*Pragāpati*’s) body.

16. He then lays down two *Rītavyâ*¹ (seasonal bricks);—these two, the *Rītavyâ*, are the seasons (*ṛitu*): it is the seasons he thus bestows thereon. [He lays them down, with *Vâg. S. XIV, 6*], ‘*Sukra* and *Suḥi*, the two summer-seasons;’—these are the names of these two: it is with their names that he thus lays them down. There are two bricks, for a season consists of two months. He settles them once only: he thereby makes (the two months) one season.

17. And as to why he lays down these two in this (layer):—this *Agni* (fire-altar) is the year, and the year is these worlds. Now that part of him which is above the earth and below the atmosphere, is this second layer; and that same part of him (*Agni*, the year,) is the summer season. And when he lays down those two in this (layer), he thereby restores to him (*Agni*) that part of his body which these two are: this is why he lays down these two (bricks) in this (layer).

¹ These two bricks are placed exactly upon the two *Rītavyâs* of the first layer, that is, in the fifth space from the centre; see p. 1, note 1.

18. And, again, as to why he lays down these two in this (layer). This fire-altar is Pragâpati, and Pragâpati is the year. Now that (part) of him which is above the feet and below the waist is this second layer; and that same part of him is the summer season. Thus when he lays down those two in this (layer), he thereby restores to him that (part) of his body which these two are: this is why he lays down these two (bricks) in this (layer).

SECOND BRÂHMANA.

1. He then lays down the Vaisvadevî (All-gods' bricks). For this second layer is that one which the Asvins at that time laid down for them (the gods); and by laying it down they became everything here whatsoever there is here.

2. The gods spake, 'The Asvins have become everything here: think ye upon this as to how we also may share in it!' They said, 'Meditate ye (kṛit)! whereby, no doubt, they meant to say, 'Seek ye a layer (kṛiti)! seek ye in what way we also may share in it!' whilst meditating, they saw these Vaisvadevî (All-gods') bricks.

3. They said, 'The Asvins have become everything here: with the help of the Asvins let us lay down (bricks) along with the Asvins' layer!' With the help of the Asvins they accordingly laid down (bricks) along with the Asvins' layer, whence they call this the Asvins' layer. Hence the end of these (bricks) is the same as that of the former ones; for they laid them down with the help of the Asvins along with the Asvins' layer.

4. And, again, as to why he lays down the All-

gods' (bricks). These indeed are those same All-gods who saw this second layer, and who came nigh with that life-sap: it is them he thereby bestows, that is, all these creatures. He lays them down in the range of the *Retaḥsik*; for the *Retaḥsik* are these two (heaven and earth): within these two (worlds) he thus places creatures; whence there are creatures within these two (worlds). He places (bricks) on every side: he thus places creatures everywhere, whence there are creatures everywhere. He places them alongside of the regional ones¹: he thus places creatures in the regions (quarters); whence there are creatures in all the (four) quarters.

5. And, again, as to why he lays down the All-gods' (bricks). When *Pragâpati* had become relaxed, all creatures went forth from the midst of him, from that birth-place of theirs. When that (central part) of his body had been restored, they entered him.

6. Now the *Pragâpati* who become relaxed is this very *Agni* (fire-altar) that is now being built up; and the creatures who went forth from the midst of him are these same All-gods' bricks; and when he lays these down, he causes those creatures, which went forth from the midst of him, to enter him. In the range of the *Retaḥsik* (he places the *Vaisvadev* bricks), for the *Retaḥsik* are the ribs, and the ribs

¹ The *Āsvini* (or *Disyâ*) bricks were placed in a circle round the centre, at the distance of a foot from where the central brick (*Svayamâtrinnâ*) was placed in the first layer,—that is to say, in the third place from the centre. They were, moreover, placed in the second space (or at the distance of half a foot) from the two spines, see p. 23, note 1. The five *Vaisvadev*s are then placed alongside of the *Āsvin*s, so as to fill up the 'first spaces,' that is to say, to lie on the spines themselves; each of the two half-foot bricks laid down in the south being, as it were, halved by the spine.

are the middle: he thus causes the creatures to enter him in the very middle. He places them on all sides: on all sides he thus causes the creatures to enter him.

7. And, again, as to why he lays down the Vaisvadevi (bricks). At that time, when that (part) of his body had been restored, Pragâpati desired, 'May I create creatures, may I be reproduced!' Having entered into union with the seasons, the waters, the vital airs, the year, and the Asvins, he produced these creatures; and in like manner does this Sacrificer, by entering into union with those deities, now produce these creatures. Hence with all (of these bricks, the word) *sagush* ('in union with') recurs.

8. [He lays down the Vaisvadevi bricks, with Vâg. S. XIV, 7], 'In union with the seasons,'—he thereby produced the seasons, and having entered into union with the seasons he produced (creatures);—'in union with the ranges,'—the ranges, doubtless, are the waters, for by water everything is ranged (distributed or produced) here: having entered into union with the waters he produced (creatures);—'in union with the gods,'—he thereby produced the gods,—those who are called 'gods¹;'—'in union with the life-sustaining gods,'—the life-sustaining gods, doubtless, are the vital airs, for by the vital airs everything living here is sustained; or, the life-sustaining gods are the metres, for by the metres (sacred writ) everything living is sustained here; having entered into union with the vital airs he produced creatures;—

¹ Lit. what they (viz. the Vedic hymns, according to the commentator) call gods:—*Yat kimîd ity eva vedavâdâ âtakshate*.

'for Agni Vaisvânara,'—Agni Vaisvânara ('belonging to all men'), doubtless, is the year: having entered into union with the year he produced creatures;—'May the Asvins, the Adhvaryus, settle thee here!'—having entered into union with the Asvins he produced creatures.

9. 'In union with the Vasus,' he says on the right side: he thereby produced the Vasus;—'in union with the Rudras,' he says at the back: he thereby produced the Rudras;—'in union with the Âdityas,' he says on the left side: he thereby produced the Âdityas;—'in union with the All-gods,' he says upwards: he thereby produced the All-gods. These (bricks) have the same beginning and end, but are different in the middle: as to their having the same beginning and end, it is because having become united with the deities in front and behind, he produced creatures; and as to their being different in the middle, it is that each time he produced different creatures from within him.

THIRD BRĀHMANA.

1. He then lays down the Prâṇabhṛit (bricks). For at that time the gods said, 'Meditate ye!' whereby, doubtless, they meant to say, 'Seek ye a layer!' Whilst meditating, they saw even that layer, the wind: they put it into that (fire-altar), and in like manner does he (the priest) now put it therein.

2. He lays down the Prâṇabhṛits,—wind, doubtless, is breath: it is wind (air) he thus bestows upon him (Agni). On the range of the Retaḥsik (they are placed); for the Retaḥsik are these two (worlds): it is within these two (worlds) that he thus places the wind; whence there is wind within these two (worlds).

He places them on every side : he thus places wind on all sides, whence the wind is everywhere. [He places them so as] on every side to run in the same direction¹: he thus makes the wind everywhere (to blow) in the same direction, whence, having become united, it blows from all quarters in the same direction. He lays them down alongside of the regional (bricks)²: he thereby places the wind in the regions, whence there is wind in all the regions.

3. And, again, as to why he lays down the *Prāṇabhṛts*;—it is that he thereby bestows vital airs on these creatures. He places them so as not to be separated from the *Vaisvadevīs*: he thereby bestows vital airs not separated from the creatures. [He lays them down with, *Vāg. S. XIV, 8*], 'Preserve mine up-breathing! Preserve my down-breathing! Preserve my through-breathing! Make mine eye shine far and wide! Make mine ear resound!' He thereby bestows on them properly constituted vital airs.

4. He then lays down the *Apasyā* (bricks). For the gods, at that time, spake, 'Meditate ye!' whereby, doubtless, they meant to say, 'Seek ye a layer!' Whilst meditating, they saw even that layer, rain:

¹ That is, the bricks placed in opposite quarters, run in the same direction; see p. 26, note 3.

² The *Prāṇabhṛts* are placed beside the *Vaisvadevīs* so as to be separated from them by the respective section of the *anūkas* or 'spines' (dividing the square 'body' of the altar into four quarters). Each *Vaisvadevī* would thus be enclosed between an *Ārvini* and a *Prāṇabhṛt*; but whilst the *Ārvini* and *Vaisvadevī* are placed in the same section (or quarter) of the altar, the *Prāṇabhṛt* comes to lie in the adjoining section, moving in the sunwise direction from left to right.

they put it into that (fire-altar) and in like manner does he now put it therein.

5. He put on the Apasyās; for rain is water (ap); it is rain he thereby puts into it (the altar; or into him, Agni). On the range of the Retaśiś (he places them), for, the Retaśiś being these two (worlds), it is on these two (worlds) that he thereby bestows rain, whence it rains therein. He places them on every side: he thus puts rain everywhere, whence it rains everywhere. [He places them] so as everywhere to run in the same direction¹: he thereby bestows rain (falling) everywhere in the same direction, whence the rain falls everywhere, and from all quarters, in the same direction. He places them alongside of those referring to the wind²: he thereby puts rain into the wind, whence rain follows to whatever quarter the wind goes.

6. And, again, as to why he lays down Apasyās,—he thereby puts water into the vital airs. He places them so as not to be separated from the Prāṇabhṛts: he thus places the water so as not to be separate from the vital airs. Moreover, water is food: he thus introduces food not separated from (the channels of) the vital airs. [He lays them down with, Vāg. S. XIV, 8] 'Make the waters swell! Quicken the plants! Bless thou the two-footed! Protect the four-footed! Draw thou rain from the sky!' He thereby puts water that is made fit, into those (vital airs).

¹ See p. 26, note 3.

² The five Apasyā bricks are placed immediately to the right of the Prāṇabhṛts (looking towards the latter from the centre of the altar), so as to fill up the four remaining spaces between the four sets of bricks on the range of the Retaśiś.

7. He then lays down the *Kḥandasyâ*¹ (bricks);—for the gods, at that time, spake, 'Meditate ye!' whereby, doubtless, they meant to say, 'Seek ye a layer!' Whilst meditating, they saw even that layer, cattle (or beasts): they put it therein, and, in like manner, does he now put it therein.

8. He lays down the *Kḥandasyâs*; for the metres (*kḥandas*) are cattle: it is cattle he thus puts into it (or, bestows on him, Agni). On every side (he places them): he thereby places cattle (or beasts) everywhere, whence there are cattle everywhere. He places them alongside of the *Apasyâs*: he thus establishes the cattle on (or, near) water, whence, cattle thrive when it rains.

9. And, again, as to why he lays down *Kḥandasyâs*. When *Pragâpati* was relaxed, the cattle, having become metres, went from him. *Gâyatri*, having become a metre, overtook them by dint of her vigour; and as to how *Gâyatri* overtook them, it is that this is the quickest (shortest) metre. And so *Pragâpati*, in the form of that (*Gâyatri*), by dint of his vigour, overtook those cattle.

10. [He lays down four in front, with, *Vâg. S. XIV, 9*], 'The head is vigour,'—*Pragâpati*, doubtless, is the head: it is he that became vigour;—'Pragâpati the metre,'—*Pragâpati* indeed became a metre.

11. 'The *Kshatra* is vigour,'—the *Kshatra*, doubtless, is *Pragâpati*, it is he that became vigour;—'the pleasure-giving metre,'—what is unde-

¹ These are otherwise called *Vayasyâ* (conferring vigour, or vitality), each formula containing the word *vayas*, 'vitality, force.' There are nineteen such bricks which are placed on the four ends of the two 'spines,' viz. four on the front, or east end of the spine proper, and five on the hind end of it as well as on each end of the 'cross-spine.'

finned that is pleasure-giving; and Pragâpati is undefined, and Pragâpati indeed became a metre.

12. 'Support is vigour,'—the support, doubtless, is Pragâpati: it is he that became vigour;—'the over-lord the metre,'—the over-lord, doubtless, is Pragâpati, and Pragâpati indeed became a metre.

13. 'The All-worker is vigour,'—the All-worker, doubtless, is Pragâpati: it is he that became vigour;—'the highest lord the metre,'—Pragâpati, the highest lord, doubtless, is the waters, for they (the waters of heaven) are in the highest place: Pragâpati, the highest lord, indeed became a metre.

14. These then are four kinds of vigour, and four metres; this (makes) eight,—the Gâyatrî consists of eight syllables: this, assuredly, is that same Gâyatrî in the form of which Pragâpati then, by his vigour, overtook those cattle; whence they say of worn-out cattle that they are overtaken by vigour (or, age), and hence (the word) 'vigour' recurs with all (these bricks). And those cattle which went away from him (Pragâpati) are these fifteen other (formulas): the cattle are a thunderbolt, and the thunderbolt is fifteenfold: whence he who possesses cattle, drives off the evildoer, for the thunderbolt drives off the evildoer for him. And in whatever direction, therefore, the possessor of cattle goes, that he finds torn up by the thunderbolt.

FOURTH BRĀHMANA.

1. 'The he-goat is vigour¹,'—the he-goat he overtook by his vigour;—'gapless the metre,'—

¹ Mahîdhara, in accordance with the explanation added by the Brâhmana to this and the corresponding formulas in the succeeding paragraphs, takes 'vayas' as a defective instrumental (vayasâ). It is, however, very doubtful whether such an interpretation of the formula was intended by the author of the Brâhmana.

the gapless metre, doubtless, is the Ekapadâ: in the form of Ekapadâ (metre) the goats indeed went forth (from Pragâpati).

2. 'The ram is vigour,'—the ram he overtook by his vigour;—'ample the metre,'—the ample metre, doubtless, is the Dvipadâ: in the form of the Dvipadâ the sheep indeed went forth.

3. 'Man is vigour,'—the man he overtook by his vigour;—'slow the metre,'—the slow metre, doubtless, is the Pañkti: in the form of the Pañkti the men indeed went forth.

4. 'The tiger is vigour,'—the tiger he overtook by his vigour;—'unassailable the metre,'—the unassailable metre, doubtless, is the Virâg, for the Virâg is food, and food is unassailable; in the form of the Virâg the tigers indeed went forth.

5. 'The lion is vigour,'—the lion he overtook by his vigour;—'the covering the metre,'—the covering metre, doubtless, is the Atikkhandas, for that covers (includes) all metres: in the form of the Atikkhandas the lions indeed went forth. And so he places undefined metres along with defined beasts.

6. 'The ox is vigour,'—the ox he overtook by his vigour;—'the Bṛihatī the metre,'—in the form of the Bṛihatī the oxen indeed went forth.

7. 'The bull is vigour,'—the bull he overtook by his vigour;—'the Kakubh the metre,'—in the form of the Kakubh the bulls indeed went forth.

8. 'The steer is vigour,'—the steer he overtook by his vigour;—'the Satobṛihatī the metre,'—in the form of the Satobṛihatī the steers indeed went forth.

9. 'The bullock is vigour,'—the bullock he overtook by his vigour;—'the Pañkti the metre,'—in the form of the Pañkti the bullocks indeed went forth.

10. 'The milch cow is vigour,'—the milch cow he overtook by his vigour;—'the Gagati the metre,'—in the form of the Gagati the milch cows indeed went forth.

11. 'The calf of eighteen months is vigour,'—the calf of eighteen months he overtook by his vigour;—'the Trishṭubh the metre,'—in the form of the Trishṭubh the calves of eighteen months indeed went forth.

12. 'The two-year-old bull is vigour,'—the two-year-old bull he overtook by his vigour;—'the Virāḡ the metre,'—in the form of the Virāḡ the two-year-old kine indeed went forth.

13. 'The bull of two years and a half is vigour,'—the bull of two years and a half he overtook by his vigour;—'the Gâyatri the metre,'—in the form of the Gâyatri the kine of two years and a half indeed went forth.

14. 'The three-year-old bull is vigour,'—the three-year-old bull he overtook by his vigour;—'the Ushṇih the metre,'—in the form of the Ushṇih the three-year-old kine indeed went forth.

15. 'The four-year-old bull is vigour,'—the four-year-old bull he overtook by his vigour;—'the Anushṭubh the metre,'—in the form of the Anushṭubh the four-year-old kine indeed went forth.

16. These then are those very beasts which Pragâpati overtook by his vigour. The animal he (the priest) mentions first, then vigour, then the

metre, for having hemmed them in with vigour and the metre, he put them into himself, and made them his own; and in like manner does he (the sacrificer) now hem them in with vigour and the metre, and put them into himself, and make them his own.

17. Now that animal is the same as Agni: (as such) he is even now made up whole and entire. Those (bricks) which he places in front are his head; those on the right and left sides are his body, and those behind his tail.

18. He first lays down those in front, for of an animal that is born the head is born first. Having then laid down those on the right (south) side, he lays down those on the left (north) side, thinking, 'Together with its sides this body shall be born.' Then those behind, for of (the animal) that is born the tail is born last.

19. The metres which are longest, and the animals which are biggest, he puts in the middle: he thus makes the animal biggest towards the middle; whence the animal is biggest towards the middle. And the animals which are the strongest he puts on the right side: he thus makes the right side of an animal the stronger; whence the right side of an animal is the stronger.

20. The fore and hind parts he makes smallest; for inasmuch as those (bricks in front) are only four in number¹, thereby they are the smallest; and inasmuch as here (at the back) he puts the smallest animals, thereby these are the smallest: he thus makes the fore and hind parts of an animal the smallest, whence the fore and hind parts of an animal

¹ See p. 35, note 3.

are the smallest; and hence the animal rises and sits down by its fore and hind parts. He then lays down two Lokamprînâ (bricks) in that corner¹: the significance of them (will be explained) further on². He throws loose earth on the layer: the significance of this (will be explained) further on³.

THE THIRD LAYER.

THIRD ADHYĀYA. FIRST BRÂHMANA.

1. He lays down the third layer. For the gods, having laid down the second layer, now ascended it; but, indeed, they thereby completed and ascended to what is above the earth and below the atmosphere.

2. They spake, 'Meditate ye!' whereby, indeed, they meant to say, 'Seek ye a layer! Seek ye (to build) upwards from hence!' Whilst meditating, they saw the great third layer, even the air: that world pleased them.

3. They said to Indra and Agni, 'Lay ye down for us this third layer!'—'What will accrue unto us therefrom?'—'Ye two shall be the best of us!'—'So be it!' Accordingly Indra and Agni laid down for them that third layer; and hence people say, 'Indra and Agni are the best of gods.'

4. He accordingly lays it down by means of Indra and Agni, and settles it by means of Visvakarman⁴,

¹ Whilst, in laying down the Lokamprînâs of the first layer, he started from the right shoulder (or south-east corner) of the altar (see p. 22, note 1), in this layer he begins from the right hip (or south west-corner), filling up the available spaces, in two turns, in sunwise fashion.

² See VII, 7, 2, 4 seq.

³ See VIII, 7, 3, 1 seq.

⁴ For the connection of these deities with the third layer, and the

for indeed Indra and Agni, as well as Visvakarman, saw this third layer: this is why he lays it down by means of Indra and Agni, and settles it by means of Visvakarman.

5. And, again, as to why he lays it down by means of Indra and Agni, and settles it by means of Visvakarman. When Pragâpati had become relaxed (disjointed), the deities took him and went off in different directions. Indra and Agni, and Visvakarman took his middle part, and kept going away from him.

6. He said to them, 'Come ye to me and restore ye to me wherewith ye are going from me!'—'What will accrue unto us therefrom?'—'That (part) of my body shall be sacred unto you!'—'So be it!' So Indra and Agni, and Visvakarman restored that (part) unto him.

7. Now that central Svayam-âtrinnâ (naturally-perforated brick)¹ is that very (part) of his body;—when he now lays down that (brick), he thereby restores to him that (part) of his (Pragâpati's) body which this (brick represents): this is why he now lays down that (brick).

8. [Vâg. S. XIV, 11], 'O Indra and Agni, make ye fast the brick so as not to shake!' as the text so the sense;—'with thy back thou forcest asunder the earth, and the sky, and the air;' for with its back this (brick) indeed forces asunder the earth, and the sky, and the air.

9. [Vâg. S. XIV, 12], 'May Visvakarman settle

air, see also VI, 2, 3. 3. Visvakarman is likewise the deity by which the Virvagyotis-brick, representing Vâyu (the wind), the regent of the air-world, is settled; see VIII, 3, 2, 3.

¹ See part iii, p. 155, note 8.

thee,' for Visvakarman saw this third layer;—'on the back of the air, thee the wide, the broad one!' for this (brick) indeed is the wide and broad back of the air;—'support thou the air, make fast the air, injure not the air!' that is, 'support thou thine own self (body), make fast thine own self, injure not thine own self!'

10. 'For all up-breathing, and down-breathing, and through-breathing, and out-breathing!' for the naturally-perforated (brick) is the vital air, and the vital air serves for everything here;—'for a resting-place and moving-place!' for the naturally-perforated (brick) is these worlds, and these worlds are indeed a resting-place and a moving-place;—'May Vāyu shelter thee!' that is, 'May Vāyu protect thee!'—'with grand prosperity!' that is, 'with great prosperity;'—'with most auspicious protection!'—that is, 'with what protection is most auspicious.' Having settled it¹, he pronounces the Sūdadohas² over it; the meaning of this has been explained. He then sings a sâman; the meaning of this (will be explained) further on³.

11. He then lays down (five) Disyâ (regional bricks)⁴. Now the regional ones, doubtless, are

¹ Viz. by the concluding formula, 'With the help of that deity, Āṅgiras-like, lie thou steady!' see part iii, p. 301, note 3.

² Viz. Vâg. S. XII, 55 (Rig-veda S. VIII, 69, 3), 'At his birth the well-like milking, speckled ones mix the Soma, the clans of the gods in the three spheres of the heavens.' See part iii, p. 307, note 2.

³ VIII, 7, 4, 1 seq.

⁴ The five Disyâs are placed on the spines in the four directions at the *retaṁsiṅ* range, just over where the five Vaisvadevī bricks were placed in the second layer (see the sketch, p. 24). Between them and the central (naturally-perforated) brick there is thus an

the regions: it is the regions he thus bestows (on the air-world). And these are those same regions not separated (from the air) wherewith Vāyu on that occasion¹ stepped nigh: it is them he thereby bestows. But prior to these same (bricks) he lays down² both the bunch of Darbha grass and the clod-bricks; and these (disyās) being yonder sun³, he thus places yonder sun over the regions, and builds him up upon (or, in) the regions. But were these (laid down) at the same time (as the bunch of grass and the clod-bricks), they would be outside (of the altar); and outside of the womb (foundation), indeed, is that sacrificial work regarding the fire-altar which is done prior to the lotus-leaf⁴. When he

empty space a foot square, and the two southern Disyās are half-bricks lying north and south of each other.

¹ See VI, 2, 3, 4. The second naturally-perforated brick represents the air-world with which Vāyu, the wind, is most closely associated.

² That is to say, he laid them down on the site of the altar, before the first layer was commenced, viz. the darbha-bunch in the centre of the 'body' of the altar, where the two spines (anūka) intersect each other (VII, 2, 3, 1 seqq.); and the clod-bricks (logesh/akā) on the four ends of the two spines (VII, 3, 1, 13 seqq.), that is, in the middle of each of the four sides of the square of which the 'body' consists.

³ The symbolic interpretation here seems somewhat confused, inasmuch as the Disyās, which are now apparently identified with the sun, have just been stated to represent the regions. At VI, 7, 1, 17 the sun was represented as the central point of the universe to which these three worlds are linked by means of the quarters (as by the strings of a scale). The clod-bricks, on the other hand, were indeed, in VII, 3, 1, 13, identified with the regions (quarters); and the bunch of grass, being laid down in the centre, might be regarded as marking the fifth region, that upwards from here. Cf. IX, 5, 1, 36.

⁴ The lotus-leaf is placed in the centre of the altar when the first layer is about to be laid down. See VII, 4, 1, 7 seqq., where

now brings and lays down these (bricks), he thereby establishes them in the womb, on the lotus-leaf, and thus these (bricks) are not outside (the fire-altar). He lays them down so as not to be separated¹ from the naturally-perforated one; for the middle² naturally-perforated one is the air: he thus places the regions so as not to be separate from the air. Subsequently³ (to the central brick he lays them down): subsequently to the air he thus sets up the regions. In all (four) directions he places them: he thus places the regions (quarters) in all directions, whence the regions are in all (four) directions. [He places them] on all sides so as to face each other: he thereby makes the regions on all sides face each other, and hence the regions on all sides face each other⁴.

12. And, again, as to why he lays down the regionals. The regions, doubtless, are the metres—the eastern region being the Gâyatri, the southern the Trishṭubh, the western the Gagati, the northern the Anushṭubh, and the upper region the Pañkti;—and the metres are animals⁵, and the middlemost layer is the air: he thus places animals in the air,

it is explained as representing the foundation of the fire-altar, or rather, the womb whence Agni is born.

¹ That is, not separated therefrom by other special bricks; though the full space of one brick is left between the Disyâs and the central brick. Perhaps, however, 'anantarhita' here means 'immediately after.'

² That is, the second of the three svayam-âtrinnâs, the one in the third layer.

³ Uttara seems here and elsewhere to have a double meaning, viz. that of subsequent, and upper, or left, inasmuch as looking towards these bricks from the centre of the altar, they are placed to the left of the particular section of the anûkas.

⁴ See p. 26, note 3.

⁵ The metres are commonly represented as cattle.

and hence there are animals that have their abode in the air¹.

13. And, again, as to why he lays down the regionals. The regions, doubtless, are the metres, and the metres are animals, and animals are food, and the middlemost layer is the middle: he thus puts food in the middle (of the body). He places them so as not to be separated (by special bricks) from the naturally-perforated one; for the naturally-perforated one is the vital air: he thus places the food so as not to be separated from the vital air. Subsequently (to the central brick he lays them down subsequently to (or upon) the vital air he thus places food. On the range of the *Retaḥsik* (he places them): the *Retaḥsik* being the ribs, and the ribs being the middle (of the body), he thus places the food in the middle of this (Agni's body). On every side he places them: from everywhere he thus supplies him with food.

14. [He lays them down, with, *Vāg. S. XIV, 13*], 'Thou art the queen, the Eastern region! Thou art the far-ruler, the Southern region! Thou art the all-ruler, the Western region! Thou art the self-ruler, the Northern region! Thou art the supreme ruler, the Great region!' these are their names: he thus lays them down whilst naming them. Separately he lays them down, separately he settles them, and separately he pronounces the *Sûdadohas* over them, for separate are the regions.

¹ That is all (four-footed) animals that dwell on, not in, the earth. The *Gâyatri* metre, at any rate, is also represented as a bird which fetches the Soma from heaven, but it is not the air as such that is intended here, but the face of the earth.

SECOND BRĀHMAṆA.

1. He then lays down a Visvagyotis (all-light brick). Now the middle Visvagyotis is Vāyu¹, for Vāyu (the wind) is all the light in the air-world: it is Vāyu he thus places therein. He places it so as not to be separated from the regional (bricks): he thus places Vāyu in the regions, and hence there is wind in all the regions.

2. And, again, as to why he lays down the Visvagyotis,—the Visvagyotis, doubtless, is offspring (or creatures), for offspring indeed is all the light: he thus lays generative power (into that world). He places it so as not to be separated from the regional ones²: he thus places creatures in the regions, and hence there are creatures in all the regions.

3. [He lays it down, with, Vāg. S. XIV, 14], 'May Visvakarman settle thee!' for Visvakarman saw this third layer³;—'on the back of the air, thee the brilliant one!' for on the back of the air that brilliant Vāyu indeed is.

4. 'For all up-breathing, down-breathing, through-breathing,'—for the Visvagyotis is breath,

¹ The three Visvagyotis bricks, placed in (the fourth easterly place from the centre of) the first, third and fifth layer respectively, are supposed to represent the regents of the three worlds—earth, air and sky—which these three layers represent, viz. Agni, Vāyu and Âditya (Sūrya). See VI, 3, 3, 16.

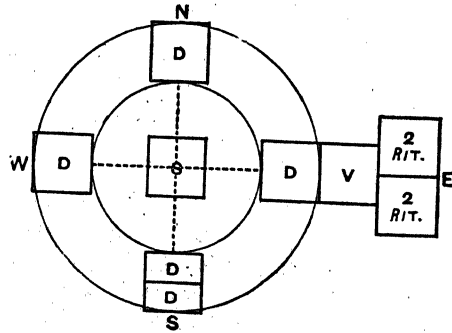
² Though, properly speaking, the Visvagyotis lies close to only one of the Disyās, viz. the eastern one, it may at any rate be said to lie close to the range of the Disyās. Here, too, the sense 'immediately after, not separated from them in respect of time,' would suit even better.

³ See VIII, 3, 1, 4 with note.

and breath indeed is (necessary) for this entire universe;—‘give all the light!’—that is, ‘give the whole light;’—‘Vāyu is thine over-lord,’—it is Vāyu he thus makes the over-lord of that (layer and the air-world). Having settled it, he pronounces the Sûdadahas over it: the significance of this has been explained.

5. He then lays down two *Ritavyâ* (seasonal¹ bricks);—the two seasonal ones being the same as the seasons, it is the seasons he thus places therein.—[Vâg. S. XIV, 15], ‘Nabha and Nabhasya, the two rainy seasons,’ these are the names of those two (bricks): it is by their names he thus lays them down. There are two (such) bricks, for a season consists of two months. He settles them once only: he thereby makes (the two months) one season. He places them on avakâ-plants and covers them

THE CENTRAL PART OF THE THIRD LAYER.



¹ These two *Ritavyâs* are placed beside (east of) the Visvagyotis, one north of the other, just over those of the first and second layers, that is to say, in the fifth space from the centre. In the present case, however, these bricks are only of half the usual thickness; two others, of similar size, being placed upon them.

with avakâ-plants¹; for avakâ-plants mean water: he thus bestows water on that season, whence it rains most abundantly in that season.

6. Then the two upper ones, with (Vâg. S. XIV, 16), 'Isha and Ūrga, the two autumnal seasons,'—these are the names of those two (bricks): it is by their names he thus lays them down. There are two (such) bricks, for a season consists of two months. He settles them only once: he thereby makes (the two months) one season. He places them on avakâ-plants, for the avakâ-plants mean water: he thus bestows water before that season, whence it rains before that season. He does not cover them afterwards, whence it does not likewise rain after (that season).

7. And as to why he places these (four bricks) in this (layer),—this fire-altar is the year, and the year is the same as these worlds, and the middlemost layer is the air (-world) thereof; and the rainy season and autumn are the air (-world) thereof: hence when he places them in this (layer), he thereby restores to him (Agni) what (part) of his body these (formed),—this is why he places them in this (layer).

8. And, again, as to why he places them in this (layer),—this Agni (the fire-altar) is Pragâpati, and Pragâpati is the year. Now the middlemost layer is the middle of this (altar), and the rainy season and the autumn are the middle of that (year): hence when he places them in this (layer), he thereby restores to him (Agni-Pragâpati) what part of his

¹ As in the case of the live tortoise, in the first layer; see VII, 5, 1, 11 with note—'Blyxa octandra, a grassy plant growing in marshy land ("lotus-flower," Weber, Ind. Stud. XIII, p. 250).'

body these (formed),—this is why he places them in this (layer).

9. There are here four seasonal (bricks) he lays down in the middlemost layer; and two in each of the other layers,—animals (cattle) are four-footed, and the middlemost layer is the air: he thus places animals in the air, and hence there are animals that have their abode in the air.

10. And, again, why there are four,—animals are four-footed, and animals are food; and the middlemost layer is the middle (of Agni's body): he thus puts food in the middle.

11. And, again, why there are four,—‘antariṅsha’ (air) consists of four syllables, and the other layers (ḥiti) consist of two syllables; hence as much as the air consists of, so much he makes it in laying it down.

12. And, again, why there are four,—this Agni (altar), doubtless, is an animal: he thus makes the animal biggest towards the middle; whence an animal is biggest towards the middle.

13. There are here four *Ritavyâs*, the *Visvagyotis* being the fifth, and five *Disyâs*,—this makes ten: the *Virâg* consists of ten syllables, and the *Virâg* is food, and the middlemost layer is the middle;—he thus puts food in the middle (of the body). He lays them down so as not to be separated from the naturally-perforated one¹, for the naturally-perforated one is the vital air: he thus places the food so as not to be separated from the vital air. Subsequently (to the central brick) he lays them down: sub-

¹ That is to say, the three sets of bricks are not separated by any others from the *Svayamâtṛinnâ*.

sequently to (or upon) the vital air he thus places food.

14. He then lays down the *Prâṇabhṛit*¹ (bricks);—the *Prâṇabhṛits* (breath-holders), doubtless, are the vital airs: it is the vital airs he thus lays into (Agni's body). There are ten of them, for there are ten vital airs. He places them in the forepart (of the altar),—for there are these vital airs in front,—with (*Vâg. S. XIV, 17*), 'Protect my vital strength! protect mine up-breathing! protect my down-breathing! protect my through-breathing! protect mine eye! protect mine ear! increase my speech! animate my mind! protect my soul (or body)! give me light!'—He lays them down so as not to be separated from the seasonal ones, for the vital air is wind: he thus establishes the wind in the seasons.

THIRD BRĀHMANA.

1. He then lays down the *Kṛandasyâ*² (metres' bricks). Now the metres are cattle, and the middlemost layer is the air: he thus places cattle in the air, whence cattle have their abode in the air.

¹ The ten *Prâṇabhṛits* are placed—five on each side of the spine—either along the edge of the altar, or so as to leave the space of one foot between them and the edge, to afford room for another set of bricks, the *Vâḷakhilyâs*.

² The thirty-six *Kṛandasyâ* bricks are laid down, in three sets of twelve each, along the edge of the body of the altar where the two wings and the tail join it; six bricks being placed on each side of the respective spine. At the back the bricks are not, however, placed close to the edge separating the body from the tail, but sufficient space is left (a foot wide) for another set of bricks to be laid down behind the *Kṛandasyâs*.

2. And, again, as to why he lays down *Khandasyās*,—the metres are cattle, and cattle are food, and the middlemost layer is the middle (of Agni, the altar): he thus places food in the middle (of Agni's body).

3. He lays them down by twelves,—for the *Gagati* consists of twelve syllables, and the *Gagati* is cattle, and the middlemost layer is the air: he thus places cattle in the air, whence cattle have their abode in the air.

4. And, again, why (he lays them down) by twelves,—the *Gagati* consists of twelve syllables, and the *Gagati* is cattle, and cattle is food, and the middlemost layer is the middle: he thus places food in the middle. He places them so as not to be separated from the *Prāṇabhṛts*: he thus places the food so as not to be separated from the vital airs; subsequently (to them he places them): he thus bestows food after (bestowing) the vital airs.

5. [He lays down the right set, with, *Vāg. S. XIV, 18*], 'The metre Measure;—the measure (*mā*), doubtless, is this (terrestrial) world, for this world is, as it were, measured (*mita*);—'the metre Fore-measure!'—the fore-measure (*pramā*), doubtless, is the air-world, for the air-world is, as it were, measured forward from this world;—'The metre Counter-measure,'—the counter-measure (*pratimā*), doubtless, is yonder (heavenly) world, for yonder world is, as it were, counter-measured¹ in the air;—'The metre *Asṛivayas*,'—'*asṛivayas*,' doubtless, is food: whatever food there is in these worlds that is '*asṛivayas*.' Or, whatever food (*anna*) flows (*sṛavati*) from these

¹ That is, made a counterfeit, or copy, of the earth.

worlds that is 'asrīvayas.' Hereafter, now, he puts down only defined metres.

6. 'The Paṅkti metre! the Ushṇih metre! the Brīhati metre! the Anuṣṭubh metre! the Virāḡ metre! the Gâyatri metre! the Trishṭubh metre! the Gagati metre!' these eight defined metres, including the Virāḡ, he puts down. —[The back set, with, Vâg. S. XIV, 19], 'The metre Earth! the metre Air! the metre Heaven! the metre Years! the metre Stars! the metre Speech! the metre Mind! the metre Husbandry! the metre Gold! the metre Cow! the metre Goat! the metre Horse!' he thus puts down those metres which are sacred to those particular deities. —[The left set, with, Vâg. S. XIV, 20], 'The deity Fire! the deity Wind! the deity Sun! the deity Moon! the deity Vasa-vaḥ! the deity Rudrâḥ! the deity Âdityâḥ! the deity Marutaḥ! the deity Visve Devâḥ! the deity Brīhaspati! the deity Indra! the deity Varuṇa!'—these deities, doubtless, are metres: it is these he thus lays down.

7. He lays down both defined and undefined (metres). Were he to lay down such as are all defined, then the food would have an end, it would fail; and (were he to lay down) such as are all undefined, then the food would be invisible, and one would not see it at all. He lays down both defined and undefined ones: hence the defined (certain) food which is eaten does not fail.

8. These then are those (sets of) twelve he lays down,—that makes thirty-six, and the Brīhati consists of thirty-six syllables: this is that same Brīhati, the air, which the gods then saw as a third

layer. In that (*brîhati* set of bricks) the gods come last (or, are highest).

9. And, again, as to why he lays down these bricks. When *Pragâpati* became relaxed, all living beings went from him in all directions.

10. Now that same *Pragâpati* who became relaxed is this very *Agni* (fire-altar) that is now being built up; and those living beings which went from him are these bricks: hence when he lays down these (bricks), he thereby puts back into him (*Pragâpati-Agni*) those same living beings which went from him.

11. Now when he first lays down ten (*Prânabhrits*), they are the moon. There are ten of these,—the *Virâg* consists of ten syllables, and the *Virâg* is food, and the moon is food. And when subsequently he lays down thirty-six (*Khandasyâs*), they are the half-months and months—twenty-four half-months and twelve months: the moon, doubtless, is the year, and all living beings.

12. And when the gods restored him (*Pragâpati-Agni*), they put all those living beings inside him, and in like manner does this one now put them therein. He lays them down so as not to be separated from the seasonal (bricks): he thus establishes all living beings in the seasons.

FOURTH BRÂHMANA.

1. He then lays down the *Vâ lakhilyâs*;—the *Vâ lakhilyâs*, doubtless, are the vital airs: it is the vital airs he thus lays (into *Agni*). And as to why they are called *Vâ lakhilyâs*,—what (unploughed piece of ground lies) between two cultivated fields is called

'khila;,' and these (channels of the) vital airs¹ are separated from each other by the width of a horse-hair (vâla), and because they are separated from each other by the width of a horse-hair, they (the bricks) are called Vâ lakhilyâs.

2. He places seven in front, and seven at the back. When he places seven in front, he thereby restores to him those seven (organs of the) vital airs here in front.

3. And those seven which (he places) behind he thereby makes the counter-breathings to those (first breathings); and hence by means of (the channels of) these breathings he passes over the food which he eats with those (other) breathings.

4. And, again, as to why he places seven in front,—there are seven (channels of the) vital airs here in the front part (of the animal)²—the four upper and lower parts of the fore-feet, the head, the neck, and what is above the navel that is the sixth, for in each limb there is a vital air: this makes seven vital airs here in front; it is them he thus lays into him (Agni-Pragâpati).

5. And as to what seven (bricks) he places behind,—there are seven vital airs here in the back part—the four thighs and knee-bones, the two feet, and what is below the navel that is the seventh, for in each limb there is a vital air: this makes seven vital airs here at the back; it is them he thus lays into him.

6. [He lays them down, with, Vâg. S. XIV, 21, 22], 'The head thou art, the ruler! steady thou

¹ Or, these bricks representing the vital airs.

² Or, in the upper part of man.

art, steadfast! a holder thou art, a hold!—
 'A guider, a ruler! a guider thou art, a guide!
 steady thou art, a steadier!' he truly bestows
 steady vital airs unto him.

7. And, again, as to why he lays down the
 Vâ lakhilyâs,—it was by means of the Vâ lakhilyâs
 that the gods then ranged over these worlds, both
 from hence upwards and from yonder downwards;
 and in like manner does the sacrifice now, by means
 of the Vâ lakhilyâs, range over these worlds, both
 from hence upwards and from yonder downwards.

8. By 'The head thou art, the ruler!' they
 stepped on this (terrestrial) world; by 'Steady
 thou art, steadfast!' on the air-world; by 'A holder
 thou art, a hold!' on that (heavenly) world.—
 'For life-strength (I bestow) thee! for vigour
 thee! for husbandry thee! for prosperity thee!'—
 There are four (kinds of) four-footed (domestic)
 animals, and (domestic) animals are food: by means
 of this food, these four four-footed animals, they
 (the gods) established themselves in yonder world;
 and in like manner does the Sacrificer now by means
 of this food, these four four-footed animals, establish
 himself in yonder world.

9. That was, as it were, an ascent away from
 hence; but this (earth) is a foothold: the gods came
 back to this foothold; and in like manner does the
 Sacrificer now come back to this foothold.

10. By 'A guider, a ruler!' they stepped on that
 (heavenly) world; by 'A guider thou art, a guide!'
 on the air-world; by 'Steady thou art, a steadier!'
 on this (terrestrial) world.—'For sap (I bestow) thee!
 for strength thee! for wealth thee! for thrift
 thee!'—There are four four-footed (domestic) animals,

and (domestic) animals are food : by means of this food, these four four-footed animals, they (the gods) established themselves in this world; and in like manner does the Sacrificer, by means of this food, these four four-footed animals, establish himself in this world.

11. Now as to the restoration (of Pragâpati-Agni). Those eleven bricks he lays down¹, which (constitute) that first anuvâka², are the air and this body (of Agni, the altar). And as to why there are eleven of these, it is because the Trishûbh consists of eleven syllables, and the air is of the trishûbh nature. And the sixty subsequent (bricks) are Vâyû, Pragâpati, Agni, the Sacrificer.

12. Those which he places in front are his head : there are ten³ of them, because there are ten vital airs, and the head is (the focus of) the vital airs. He places them in front, because the head (of an animal) is here in front.

13. And those which he places on the right (south) side are that (part) of him which is above the waist and below the head. And those at the back are that (part) of him which is above the feet and below the waist. Those on the left (north) side are the feet themselves.

14. And the seven (Vâ lakhilyâs) which he places in front are these seven vital airs here in the fore-part (of an animal) : it is these he thus puts into

¹ That is to say, the first eleven bricks of the third layer, viz. one svayamâtrinnâ, four disyâs, one visvagyotis, and four ritavyâs.

² The formulas used with these bricks, Vâg. S. XIV, 11-16, constitute the first anuvâka of the texts relating to the third layer (XIV, 11-22).

³ Viz. ten Prâ nabhrîts, see VIII, 3, 2, 14.

him (Agni). He places them so as not to be separated from those ten (Prâṇabhṛits): he thereby puts in vital airs that are not separate from the head.

15. And the seven he places at the back (of the altar) are those seven vital airs behind: it is these he thereby puts into him. He places them so as not to be separated from those twelve (*Khandasyâs*): he thereby puts into him vital airs that are not separate from the body. That same Vâyu-Pragâpati is turned round in all directions in this trishubh-like air; and when he lays down the third layer, having made up both Vâyu (the wind) and the air, he thereby adds them to himself. He then puts down two Lokamprînâ (space-filling bricks) in that corner¹: the significance of them (will be explained) further on². He throws loose earth (on the layer): the significance of this (will be explained) further on³.

THE FOURTH LAYER.

FOURTH ADHYÂYA. FIRST BRÂHMANA.

1. He lays down the fourth layer. For the gods having laid down the third layer, now ascended; but, the third layer being the air; it was the air which, having completed it, they ascended.

2. They spake, 'Meditate ye!' whereby, indeed,

¹ Whilst, in laying down the Lokamprînâs of the first and second layers, he started from the south-east and south-west corners respectively, in the third layer he starts from the left hip (or north-west corner) of the altar; filling up the available spaces in two turns, in sunwise fashion. Cf. p. 22, note 1; and p. 41, note 1.

² See VIII, 7, 2, 4 seq.

³ See VIII, 7, 3, 1 seq.

they meant to say, 'Seek ye a layer! Seek ye (to build) from hence upwards!' Whilst meditating, they saw that fourth layer, (to wit) what is above the air and below the heavens; that world was to their minds, as it were, unstable and unsettled.

3. They said to the Brahman, 'We will lay thee down (or, set thee up) here!'—'What will therefrom accrue to me?'—'Thou shalt be the highest of us!'—'So be it!' They accordingly laid the Brahman down here, whence people say that the Brahman is the highest of gods. Now, by this fourth layer these two, heaven and earth, are upheld, and the fourth layer is the Brahman, whence people say that heaven and earth are upheld by the Brahman. He lays down the Stomas (hymn-forms)¹: the stomas being the vital airs, and the Brahman also being the vital airs, it is the Brahman he thereby lays down.

4. And, again, as to why he lays down the Stomas. The gods, at that time, said to Pragâpati, 'We will lay thee down here!'—'So be it!' He did not say, 'What will therefrom accrue unto me?' but whenever Pragâpati wished to obtain anything from the gods, they said, 'What will therefrom accrue to us?' And hence even now if a father wishes to obtain anything from his sons, they say, 'What will there-

¹ This refers to the first eighteen bricks of the fourth layer; but as the names of the bricks (ishâkâ, f.) are invariably of the feminine gender, it is doubtful whether stoma (m.), in this case, is meant as the designation of these bricks, or merely as their symbolical analogon. In the former case, one would rather, from the analogy of other bricks, expect some such term as 'stomyâ.' To the first four of them Mahîdhara, on Vâg. S. XIV, 23, applies the epithet *mṛityumohinî*, or 'confounders of death.'

from accrue unto us?' and when the sons (wish to obtain anything) from the father, he says, 'So be it!' for in this way Pragâpati and the gods used of old to converse together. He lays down the Stomas: the stomas being the vital airs, and Pragâpati also being the vital airs, it is Pragâpati he thus lays down.

5. And, again, as to why he lays down the Stomas. Those vital airs, the *Rîshis*¹, that saw this fourth layer², and who stepped nigh with that essential element (of the altar), are these (vital airs): it is them he now lays down. He lays down ~~the~~ Stomas:—the stomas being the vital airs, and the *Rîshis* also being the vital airs, it is the *Rîshis* he thus lays down.

6. And, again, as to why he lays down the Stomas. When Pragâpati had become relaxed (disjointed), the gods took him and went away. Vâyu, taking that (part) of him which was above the waist and below the head, kept going away from him, having become the deities and the forms of the year.

7. He spake to him, 'Come to me and restore to me that wherewith thou hast gone from me!'—'What will therefrom accrue unto me?'—'That part of my self shall be sacred unto thee!'—'So be it!' thus Vâyu restored that unto him.

8. Those eighteen (bricks³) which there are at

¹ See VI, 1, 1, 1; VII, 2, 3, 5.

² See VI, 2, 3, 7, 8.

³ These eighteen bricks, representing the Stomas, or hymn-forms, are laid down in the following order. At each end of the spine (running from west to east) one brick, of the size of the shank (from knee to ankle), is placed, with its line-marks running from west to east; the eastern one being placed north, and the western one south, of the spine. Thereupon an ordinary brick, a foot square, is placed

first, are that very (part) of his (Pragāpati's) body; and when he places them in this (layer), he thereby restores to him that (part) of his body which these (form): therefore he places them in this (layer). He lays down the Stomas: the stomas being the vital airs, and Vāyu (the wind) also being the vital airs, it is Vāyu he thus lays down.

9. In front he lays down one, with (Vāg. S. XIV, 23), 'The swift one, the Trivṛit!' he therewith lays down that hymn-form which is trivṛit (threefold, or thrice-three-versed). And as to why he calls it 'the swift one,' it is because this, indeed, is the swiftest of stomas. But the swift threefold one, doubtless, is Vāyu: he exists in these three worlds. And as to why he calls him 'the swift one,' it is because he is the swiftest of all beings: being (or, in the form of) Vāyu it remained in front,—it is that form he now lays down.

10. [The back one¹, with], 'The bright one², the Pañkadasa!' he therewith lays down that

at the southern end of the 'cross-spine,' so as to lie on the spine (though not apparently exactly in the middle, but so that only one-fourth of the brick lies on one side of the spine) with its line-marks running from south to north; and a second brick of the same size is placed on the north, but so as to leave the full space of another such brick between it and the northern edge of the altar. Behind (west of) the front brick, fourteen half-foot bricks are then laid down, in a row from north to south, seven on each side of the spine.

¹ The formulas of the first four of these (stoma) bricks are not given here (in paragraphs 9-12) in the order in which the bricks are actually laid down, viz. E. W. S. N., but in the order E. S. N. W.; cp. Kātyāy. Śrautas. XVII, 10, 6-9. For a symbolic explanation of this change of order see VIII, 4, 4, 1 seq.

² Or, perhaps, 'the angry one.' The author of the Brāhmaṇa, however, evidently connects 'bhānta' with the root 'bhā,' to shine.

hymn-form which is fifteenfold (fifteen-versed). And when he calls it 'the bright one,' it is that the bright one is the thunderbolt, and the thunderbolt is fifteenfold. But the bright, fifteenfold one, doubtless, also is the Moon: he waxes during fifteen days, and wanes during fifteen days. And as to his calling him 'the bright one,' the Moon indeed shines: being the Moon it remained on the right side,—it is that form he now lays down.

11. [The left (north) one, with], 'The (aerial) space, the Saptadasa!' he therewith lays down that hymn-form which is seventeenfold. And as to his calling it 'the space,'—the (aerial) space is Pragâpati, and the seventeenfold one is Pragâpati. But indeed the seventeenfold space also is the year: in it there are twelve months and five seasons. And as to his calling it space, the year indeed is space: being space, it remained on the left side,—it is that form he now lays down.

12. [The right (south) one, with], 'The upholder, the Ekavimsa!' he therewith lays down that hymn-form which is twenty-one-fold. And as to his calling it 'the upholder,'—the upholder means a foothold, and the Ekavimsa is a foothold. But indeed the twenty-one-fold upholder also is yonder sun: to him belong the twelve months, the five seasons, these three worlds, and yonder sun himself is the upholder, the twenty-one-fold. And as to his calling him 'the upholder,'—when he sets everything here holds its peace: being the sun, it remained at the back,—it is that form he now lays down; and the forms of the year he lays down.

13. 'Speed, the Ashvâdasa!' he therewith lays down that hymn-form which is eighteenfold. Now,

speed, the eighteenfold one, doubtless, is the year : in it there are twelve months, five seasons, and the year itself is speed, the eighteenfold. And as to his calling it 'speed,' the year indeed speeds all beings : it is that form he now lays down.

14. 'Heat, the Navadasa!' he therewith lays down that hymn-form which is nineteenfold. But heat, the nineteenfold one, doubtless, is the year : in it there are twelve months, six seasons, and the year itself is heat, the nineteenfold. And as to his calling it 'heat,' the year indeed burns all beings : it is that form he now lays down.

'Victorious assault, the Savimsa!' he therewith lays down that hymn-form which is twentyfold. But victorious assault, the twentyfold one, doubtless, is the year : in it there are twelve months, seven seasons, and the year itself is victorious assault, the twentyfold. And as to why he calls it 'victorious assault,' the year indeed assails all beings : it is that form he now lays down.

16. 'Vigour, the Dvâvimsa!' he therewith lays down that hymn-form which is twenty-two-fold. But vigour, the twenty-two-fold one, doubtless is the year : in it there are twelve months, seven seasons, the two, day and night, and the year itself is vigour, the twenty-two-fold. And as to why he calls it 'vigour,' the year is indeed the most vigorous of all existing things : it is that form he now lays down.

17. 'The array, the Trayovimsa!' he therewith lays down that hymn-form which is twenty-three-fold. But array, the twenty-three-fold one, doubtless, means the year : in it there are thirteen months, seven seasons, the two, day and night, and the year itself is the array, the twenty-three-fold.

And as to his calling it 'array,' the year is indeed arrayed over all beings : it is that form he now lays down.

18. 'The womb, the *Katurvimsa*!' he therewith lays down that hymn-form which is twenty-four-fold. But the womb, the twenty-four-fold one, doubtless, is the year : in it there are twenty-four half-months. And as to his calling it 'the womb,' the year is indeed the womb of all beings : it is that form he now lays down.

19. 'The embryos, the *Pañkavimsa*!' he therewith lays down that hymn-form which is twenty-five-fold. But the embryos, the twenty-five-fold one, doubtless, is the year : in it there are twenty-four half-months, and the year itself is the embryos, the twenty-five-fold. And as to his calling it 'the embryos,'—the year, as an embryo, in the shape of the thirteenth month, enters the seasons : it is that form he now lays down.

20. 'Strength, the *Trinava*!' he therewith lays down that hymn-form which is thrice ninefold. And as to his calling it 'strength,'—strength (*ogas*) means the thunderbolt (*vagra*), and the *Trinava* is a thunderbolt. But strength also means the year : in it there are twenty-four half-months, the two, day and night, and the year itself is strength, the thrice-ninefold. And as to his calling it 'strength,' the year indeed is the strength of all beings : it is that form he now lays down.

21. 'Design, the *Ekatrimsa*!' he therewith lays down that hymn-form which is thirty-one-fold. But design, the thirty-one-fold, doubtless, means the year : in it there are twenty-four half-months, six seasons, and the year itself is design, the thirty-one-fold. And

as to his calling it 'design,' the year indeed designs (makes, forms) all beings: it is that form he now lays down.

22. 'The foundation, the Trayastriṃsa!' he therewith lays down that hymn-form which is thirty-three-fold. And as to why he calls it 'the foundation,' the thirty-three-fold is indeed a foundation. But indeed the foundation, the thirty-three-fold, also is the year: in it there are twenty-four half-months, six seasons, the two, day and night, and the year itself is the foundation, the thirty-three-fold. And as to his calling it 'the foundation,' the year is ~~indeed~~ the foundation of all beings: it is that form he now lays down.

23. 'The range of the ruddy one, the Katustriṃsa!' he therewith lays down that hymn-form which is thirty-four-fold. But the range of the ruddy one (the sun), the thirty-four-fold one, doubtless, is the year: in it there are twenty-four half-months, seven seasons, the two, day and night, and the year itself is the range of the ruddy one, the thirty-four-fold. And as to his calling it 'the range of the ruddy one,' the range of the ruddy one, doubtless, means supreme sway, and the thirty-four-fold one means supreme sway: it is that form he now lays down.

24. 'The firmament, the Shattriṃsa!' he therewith lays down that hymn-form which is thirty-six-fold. But the firmament, the thirty-six-fold one, doubtless, is the year: in it there are twenty-four half-moons, and twelve months. And as to why he calls it 'the firmament' (nākam), it is because there is no pain (na akam) for whosoever goes there. And the firmament indeed is the year, the heavenly world is the year: it is that form he now lays down.

25. 'The revolving sphere, the *Ashâtâvatvârimsa*!' he therewith lays down that hymn-form which is forty-eight-fold. But the revolving sphere, the forty-eight-fold, doubtless, is the year: in it there are twenty-six half-months, thirteen months, seven seasons, and the two, day and night. And as to his calling it 'the revolving sphere,' from the year all creatures indeed are evolved: it is that form he now lays down.

26. 'The stay, the *Katushôma*!' he therewith lays down the chant of praise consisting of four stomas¹. And as to his calling it 'the stay,'—stay means support, and the *Katushôma* is a support. But the stay, the *Katushôma*, doubtless, is *Vâyu* (the wind), for he sings from all those four quarters. And as to his calling him 'the stay,'—stay means support; and the wind indeed is the support of all beings: it is that form he now lays down. The wind he places first and last: by the wind he thus encloses all these beings on both sides.

27. These, then, are eighteen bricks he lays down; this makes two *Trivrits*,—the *Trivrit* being breath, and breath being wind, this layer is *Vâyu*.

28. And as to why there are eighteen,—the year is eighteenfold: twelve months and six seasons. And *Pragâpati* indeed is the year, *Pragâpati* is eighteenfold: as great as *Agni* is, as great as is his measure, so great he makes it when he lays it down.

SECOND BRÂHMANA.

1. He then lays down the *Spritaḥ*² (freeing

¹ For particulars on the *Katushôma*, see note on XIII, 1, 3, 4.

² The ten *Spritaḥ* are placed in close connection with the preceding set;—viz at the front and back ends of the spine, two

bricks). For when that (part) of his body had been restored, Pragâpati became pregnant with all beings: whilst they were in his womb, evil, death, seized them.

2. He spake to the gods, 'With you I will free all these beings from evil, from death¹!'—'What will accrue unto us therefrom?'—'Choose ye!' said he. —'Let there be a share for us!' said some to him. 'Let lordship be unto us!' said others. Having bestowed a share on some, and lordship on others, he freed all beings from evil, from death; and inasmuch as he freed (*sprī*) them, therefore (those bricks are called) '*Sprītaḥ*.' And in like manner does this Sacrificer, by bestowing a share on some, and lordship on others, now free all beings from evil, from death; and hence (the word) '*sprītam* (freed)' recurs with all of them.

3. [He lays them down², with, Vâg. S. XIV, 24-26], 'Agni's share thou art, Dikshâ's lordship!'—Dikshâ, doubtless, is Speech: having bestowed a share on Agni, he bestows lordship on Speech;—'the Brahman is freed; the Trivṛit-stoma!'—by means of the thrice-threefold hymn-form he freed

bricks, exactly corresponding in size to those already lying there, are placed south and north of these respectively. Similarly two bricks, a foot square, are placed on the 'cross-spine' immediately north of the two stoma-bricks lying there. The remaining six bricks are then placed behind the row of fourteen 'stomas' in the front part of the altar, three on each side of the spine.

¹ Or, from that evil, death.

² In the case of the first four *Sprītaḥ*, as in that of the corresponding Stomas (see p. 61, note 1), while the bricks themselves are laid down in the order E.W.N.S., the order in which the formulas are given in paragraphs 3-6, is that of E.N.S.W.—Cp. Kâty. Śrautas. XVII, 10, 11-14. For a symbolical explanation of this change of order, see VIII, 4, 4, 1 seq.

the Brahman (priesthood) for living beings from evil, from death.

4. 'Indra's share thou art, Vishnu's lordship!'—Having bestowed a share on Indra, he bestowed lordship on Vishnu;—'the Kshatra is freed; the Paññadasa-stoma!'—by means of the fifteenfold hymn-form he freed the Kshatra (nobility) for living beings from evil, from death.

5. 'The man-viewers' share thou art, the creator's lordship!'—the man-viewers, doubtless, are the gods: having bestowed a share on the gods, he bestowed lordship on the creator;—'the birth-place is freed, the Saptadasa-stoma!'—the birth-place, doubtless, is the peasantry: by means of the seventeenfold hymn-form he frees the peasantry for living beings from evil, from death.

6. 'Mitra's share thou art, Varuna's lordship!'—Mitra, doubtless, is the out-breathing, and Varuna the down-breathing: having bestowed a share on the out-breathing, he bestowed lordship on the down-breathing;—'heaven's rain, the wind is freed; the Ekavimsa-stoma!'—by means of the twenty-one-fold hymn-form he frees both rain and wind for living beings from evil, from death.

7. 'The Vasus' share thou art, the Rudras' lordship!'—having bestowed a share on the Vasus, he bestowed lordship on the Rudras;—'the four-footed is freed, the Katurvimsa-stoma!'—by means of the twenty-five-fold hymn-form he freed the four-footed for living beings from evil, from death.

8. 'The Âdityas' share thou art, the Maruts' lordship!'—having bestowed a share on the Âdityas, he bestowed lordship on the Maruts;—'the

embryos are freed, the *Pañkavimsa-stoma*!—by means of the twenty-five-fold hymn-form he freed the embryos for living beings from evil, from death.

9. 'Aditi's share thou art, Pûshan's lordship!'—Aditi, doubtless, is this (earth): having bestowed a share on her, he bestowed lordship on Pûshan,—'vigour is freed; the *Trinava-stoma*!' by means of the thrice-ninefold hymn-form he freed vigour for living beings from evil, from death.

10. 'God Savitri's share thou art, Bṛihaspati's lordship!'—having bestowed a share on the god Savitri, he bestows lordship on Bṛihaspati;—'the facing quarters are freed, the *Katush-toma*!'—by means of the chant of praise consisting of four stomas he freed all the (four) quarters for living beings from evil, from death.

11. 'The Yavas' share thou art, the Ayavas' lordship!'—the Yavas, doubtless, are the first (light) fortnights, and the Ayavas the latter (dark) fortnights, for these gain (yu) and obtain (â-yu) everything here¹: having bestowed a share on the first fortnights, he bestowed lordship on the latter fortnights;—'the creatures are freed, the *Katus-katvârimsa-stoma*!'—by means of the forty-four-fold hymn-form he freed all creatures from evil, from death.

12. 'The Rîbhus' share thou art, the All-gods' lordship!'—having bestowed a share on the Rîbhus, he bestowed lordship on the Virve-Devâh;—

¹ This is clearly a fanciful etymology. If 'yava' and 'ayava,' in the sense of the bright and dark fortnights, are really genuine terms, it is more likely that they are derived from yu, 'to keep off,'—the bright half of the moon being looked upon as capable of averting evil spirits, and the dark half as the reverse of this.

'the living being is freed; the Trayastrimsa-stoma!'—by means of the thirty-three-fold hymn-form he freed all living beings from evil, from death; and in like manner does the Sacrificer, by means of the thirty-three-fold hymn-form, now free all living beings from evil, from death.

13. These, then, are ten bricks he lays down,—the Virâg consists of ten syllables, and Agni is Virâg (wide-shining); there are ten regions, and Agni is the regions; there are ten vital airs, and Agni is the vital airs: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, by so much he thus frees all these creatures from evil, from death.

14. He then lays down two Rîtavâyâs¹ (seasonal bricks);—the seasonal ones being the same as the seasons, it is the seasons he thus lays down;—with (Vâg. S. XIV, 27), 'Saha and Sahasya, the two winter-seasons!' These are the names of those two, it is with their names he thus lays them down. There are two such bricks, for a season consists of two months. Only once he settles them: he thus makes (the two months) one season.

15. And as to why he places these two (bricks) in this (layer),—this Agni (fire-altar) is the year, and the year is these worlds: what part thereof is above the air, and below the sky, that is this fourth layer, and that is the winter-season thereof; and when he places these two in this (layer), he thereby restores to him (Pragâpati-Agni, the year and fire-altar) what part of his body these two (constitute). This is why he places these two in this (layer).

¹ These are placed over the Rîtavâyâs of the preceding layers, viz. in the fifth place to the east of the centre, south and north of the spine.

16. And, again, as to why he places these two in this (layer),—this Agni is Pragâpati, and Pragâpati is the year: what (part) of him there is above the waist, and below the head, that is this fourth layer, and that is the winter-season of him (or, of it, the year). And when he places these two in this (layer), he thereby restores to him what part of his body these two (constitute). This is why he places these two in this (layer).

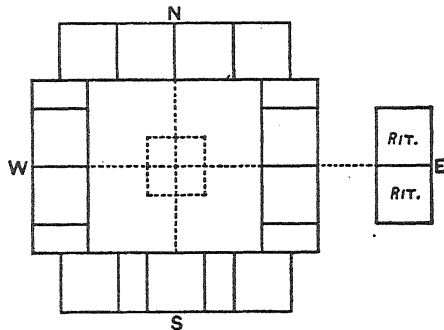
THIRD BRĀHMANA.

1. He then lays down the *Srîshîs*¹ (creations). For Pragâpati, having freed all beings from evil,

¹ The seventeen *Srîshîs* are to be placed round the centre, along the *retâksik* range, in such a way that nine bricks lie south

THE CENTRAL PART OF THE FOURTH LAYER.

(Seventeen *srîshî* and two *ritavyâ*.)



and eight bricks north, of the spine; and that five bricks form the southern side, and four bricks each of the three other sides. Whilst the bricks of the south side are further specified as consisting of a brick, a foot square, lying on the cross-spine, being flanked on both sides by half-foot bricks, and these again by square bricks; no particulars are given regarding the other sides. Most likely, however, as indicated in the accompanying sketch, four square bricks, two on each side of the cross-spine, are to form the left (north) side, whilst the front and hind sides are to consist of two

from death, he now desired, 'May I produce creatures, may I procreate!'

2. He spake unto the vital airs¹, 'Together with you, I will here bring forth creatures!—'Wherewith shall we sing praises²?—'With me and with your-

square bricks lying north and south of the spine, and flanked by half-foot bricks.

¹ That is, to the deities representing the vital airs, viz. the regions, &c. Mahidh.

² Professor Delbrück, in his *Altindische Syntax*, pp. 136, 257, 265, takes 'stoshyâmahe' in this passage in a passive sense—'by whom shall we be praised?' I think, however, that this is a mistake, and Harisvâmin's commentary certainly takes it in the same sense as I have done; and, indeed, the paragraphs which follow seem to me to make it quite clear that no other interpretation is possible. Pragâpati is about to perform the 'srîshîs,' i.e. the creation of living beings by means of sacrifice (his own self). He requires the assistance of the Prânas (vital airs) in order to produce creatures endowed with breath, and he also appeals to (the three most prominent of) them in their capacity as Rîshis (VI, 1, 1, 1 seq.) to officiate as his (Udgâtri) priests. They ask, 'Wherewith shall we sing praises?' and he answers, 'With me and with your own selves.' The 'wherewith,' according to Harisvâmin, refers both to the 'stotriyâ' verses to be used, and to the deities of the srîshîs-stotras. That the former, at all events, is indeed the case, a glance at the subsequent paragraphs shows, where the stotriyâs are identified with the vital airs, and, when their number (ten) becomes exhausted, with parts of the year (Pragâpati), and of his (the Sacrificer's, or Pragâpati's) body. As regards the deities whom Harisvâmin considers to be likewise implied, this also is by no means improbable, though I must confess that it did not occur to me, before I looked at the commentary. In the Udgâtri's text-books, the chanting of stotras is usually interpreted as symbolising the production of 'food' (cf., for instance, Tândya-Br. I, 3, 6, 'annam karishyâmy annam pravishyâmy annam ganayishyâmi'), whilst here it seems identified with the production of life, or breath itself (cf. ib. 5, 'brzhaspatîs tvâ yunaktu devebhyaḥ prânâya &c.'); and, accordingly, in Sat. Br. X, 3, 1, 1, 7, the principal vital air, the breath proper, is called 'praganana-prâna.'

selves!'—'So be it!' So they sang praises both with the vital airs and with Pragâpati; and whatsoever the gods do, that they do with praise, that—praise being sacrifice—they do with sacrifice. Hence (the words) 'they sang praises' recur with all (these bricks).

3. [They lay them down, with, Vâg. S. XIV, 28-31], 'With one they sang praises,'—the one, doubtless, is speech: it is with speech they then sang praises;—'creatures were conceived,'—creatures indeed were now conceived;—'Pragâpati was the lord!'—Pragâpati indeed was now the lord.

4. 'With three they sang praises,'—there are three vital airs: the out-breathing, the up-breathing, and the through-breathing: it is with them they then sang praises;—'the Brahman was created,'—the priesthood indeed was now created;—'Brahmanaspati was the lord!' Brahmanaspati indeed was now the lord.

5. 'With five they sang praises,'—what (four) vital airs there are here, with mind as a fifth: it is with them they then sang praises;—'the living beings were created,'—the living beings indeed were now created;—'the lord of beings was the lord!'—the lord of beings indeed was now the lord.

6. 'With seven they sang praises,'—what seven vital airs there are here in the head: it is with them they then sang praises;—'the seven *Rishis* were created,'—the seven *Rishis* indeed were now created;—'the creator was the lord!'—the creator indeed was now the lord.

7. 'With nine they sang praises,'—there are nine vital airs, seven in the head, and two downward

ones: it is with them they then sang praises;—‘the Fathers were created,’—the Fathers indeed were now created;—‘Aditi was the ruler!’—Aditi indeed was now the ruler.

8. ‘With eleven they sang praises,’—there are ten vital airs, and the trunk is the eleventh: it is therewith they then sang praises;—‘the seasons were created,’—the seasons indeed were now created;—‘the seasonal periods were the lords!’—the seasonal periods indeed were now the lords.

9. ‘With thirteen they sang praises,’—there are ten vital airs, and two feet, and the trunk is the thirteenth: it is therewith they then sang praises;—‘the months were created,’—the months indeed were now created;—‘the year was the lord!’—the year indeed was now the lord.

10. ‘With fifteen they sang praises,’—there are ten fingers, four fore-arms and upper arms, and what is above the navel is the fifteenth: it is therewith they then sang praises;—‘the Kshatra was created,’—the nobility indeed was now created;—‘Indra was the lord!’—Indra indeed was now the lord.

11. ‘With seventeen they sang praises,’—there are ten toes, four thighs and shanks, two feet, and what is below the navel is the seventeenth: it is therewith they then sang praises;—‘the tame animals were created,’—the tame animals indeed were now created;—‘Bṛihaspati was the lord!’—Bṛihaspati indeed was now the lord.

12. ‘With nineteen they sang praises,’—there are ten fingers, and nine vital airs: it is with these they then sang praises;—‘the Sûdra and Ârjya were created,’—the Sûdra and Ârya indeed

were now created;—‘the day and night were the rulers!’—the day and night indeed were now the rulers.

13. ‘With twenty-one they sang praises,’—there are ten fingers, ten toes, and the trunk is the twenty-first: it is therewith that they then sang praises;—‘the one-hoofed animals were created,’—the one-hoofed animals indeed were now created;—‘Varuna was the lord!’—Varuna indeed was now the lord.

14. ‘With twenty-three they sang praises,’—there are ten fingers, ten toes, two feet, and the trunk is the twenty-third: it is therewith they then sang praises;—‘the small animals were created,’—the small animals indeed were now created;—‘Pûshan was the lord!’—Pûshan indeed was now the lord.

15. ‘With twenty-five they sang praises,’—there are ten fingers, ten toes, four limbs, and the trunk is the twenty-fifth: it is therewith they then sang praises;—‘the wild animals were created,’—the wild animals indeed were now created;—‘Vâyu was the lord!’—Vâyu indeed was now the lord.

16. ‘With twenty-seven they sang praises,’—there are ten fingers, ten toes, four limbs, two feet, and the trunk is the twenty-seventh: it is therewith they then sang praises;—‘Heaven and Earth went asunder,’—heaven and earth indeed now went asunder;—‘the Vasus, Rudras and Âdityas separated along with them: they indeed were the lords!’ and they indeed were now the lords.

17. ‘With twenty-nine they sang praises;’—

there are ten fingers, ten toes, and nine vital airs : it is with these they then sang praises ;—‘ the trees were created,’—the trees indeed were now created ;—‘ Soma was the lord,’—Soma indeed was now the lord.

18. ‘ With thirty-one they sang praises,’—there are ten fingers, ten toes, ten vital airs, and the trunk is the thirty-first : it is therewith they then sang praises ;—‘ the creatures were created,’—the creatures indeed were now created ;—‘ the Yavas and Ayavas were the lords,’—the bright and dark fortnights indeed were now the lords.

19. ‘ With thirty-three they sang praises,’—there are ten fingers, ten toes, ten vital airs, two feet, and the trunk is the thirty-third : it is therewith they then sang praises ;—‘ the living beings lay quiet,’—all living beings now indeed lay quiet ;—‘ Pragâpati, the supreme, was the lord!’—Pragâpati, the supreme, indeed was now the lord.

20. These, then, are seventeen bricks he lays down,—the year, Pragâpati, is seventeenfold, he is the progenitor : it is thus by this seventeenfold year, by Pragâpati, the progenitor, that he caused these creatures to be generated. And what he generated, he created ; and inasmuch as he created (*srig*), therefore they are called creations (*srishtî*). Having created them, he made them enter his own self : and in like manner does the Sacrificer now cause these creatures to be generated by that seventeenfold year, by Pragâpati, the progenitor ; and having created them, he makes them enter his own self¹. On the

¹ That is, he makes them pass into his own power, makes them his own.

range of the Retaḥsiḥ (he lays down these bricks): the Retaḥsiḥ being the ribs, and the ribs the middle (of the body), it is in the very middle that he causes these creatures to enter him. He lays them on all sides: from all sides he thus makes these creatures to enter him.

FOURTH BRÂHMANA.

1. Now, then, as to the order of proceeding. That (brick) which contains the Trivṛt (thrice-threefold stoma) he places in front, that containing the twenty-one-fold (stoma) at the back, that containing the fifteenfold (stoma) on the right (south) side, that containing the seventeenfold (stoma) on the left (north) side.

2. Now when the one containing the Trivṛt had been laid down, Death lay in wait for Pragâpati in the one (on the south side) containing the fifteenfold (stoma), thinking, 'After that he will lay down this one: I will here seize upon him!' He (Pragâpati) was aware of him, and having seen him, he walked round and laid down (at the back) the (brick) containing the twenty-one-fold (stoma). Death came thither, and he (Pragâpati) laid down the one (on the south side) containing the fifteenfold (stoma). Death came to the fifteenfold one, and he (Pragâpati) laid down the one (on the north side) containing the seventeenfold (stoma). It was here¹ that he put down and confounded Death; and in like manner does the Sacrificer now put down and confound all evils.

¹ That is, in the laying down of these bricks. For the order followed in laying down the bricks, see also p. 67, note 2.

3. Then as to the subsequent (bricks). Alongside of the one (in front) containing the Trivṛit he lays down one containing the Trivṛit; alongside of that (at the back) containing the Ekavimsa (he lays down) one containing the Ekavimsa; alongside of that (on the south, or right, side) containing the Pañkadasa (he lays down) one containing the Saptadasa; alongside of that (on the north, or left, side) containing the Saptadasa (he lays down) one containing the Pañkadasa. And because he thus changes in laying them down¹, therefore they (the bricks) are of diverse stomas; and because these stomas are then otherwise with regard to the former ones², therefore also they (the bricks) are of diverse stomas. And in this way the gods laid them down, and otherwise the Asuras; whereupon the gods succeeded, and the Asuras came to naught: he who knows this, succeeds of himself, and his hateful enemy comes to naught.

4. Now, this Agni (fire-altar) is an animal, and he is made up (restored) here whole and entire. His head is the two (bricks) containing the Trivṛit; and as to why these two are such as contain the Trivṛit,—the head is threefold (trivṛit). There are two of them, because the head consists of two bones (kapâla). He lays them down in front, for this head is in the front (of the animal).

5. The two (behind) containing the Ekavimsa are the foundation (the feet). And as to why these are such as contain the Ekavimsa,—the Ekavimsa is

¹ The Sanskrit text, as usual, makes our gerundial clause the principal clause: 'because he lays them down in changing them.'

² On the south side a Sprit representing the Saptadasa is placed immediately north of a stoma (brick) representing the Pañkadasa; and vice versâ on the north (left) side.

a foundation. There are two of them, because the foundation is a pair (of feet). He places them behind, because this foundation (the hind-feet) is behind.

6. The two containing the *Pañkadasa*¹ are the arms (or fore-feet). And as to why these are such as contain the *Pañkadasa*,—the arms are fifteenfold. There are two of them, because these arms are two. He places them on the sides, because these two arms are at the sides.

7. The two containing the *Saptadasa* are food. And as to why they are such as contain the *Saptadasa*,—food is seventeenfold. There are two of them, because 'anna' (food) has two syllables. He lays them down close to those containing the *Pañkadasa*: he thus puts the food close to the arms. Those containing the *Pañkadasa* are on the outside, and those containing the *Saptadasa* on the inside: he thus encloses the food on both sides by the arms.

8. And those he places in the middle are the body (trunk). He places them on the range of the *Retaḥsiḥ* (bricks), for—the *Retaḥsiḥ* being the ribs, and the ribs being the middle (of the body)—this body is in the middle (of the limbs)². He places them in every direction, for this body (extends) in every direction. And as to what other (space) there is besides this, that is left over;—and what is left over for the gods, that is these metres;—and as to these

¹ Viz. the southern one of the two on the south (right) side, and the northern one of the two on the north (left) side.

² *Atha yā madhya upadadhāti sa ātmā, tā retaḥsiḥor velayo-padadhāti—prishṭayo vai retaḥsiḥau, madhyam u prishṭayo—madhyato hy ayam ātmā.*—Here the two clauses with 'vai' are inserted to substantiate the reason introduced by 'hi.'

metres, they are cattle;—and as to cattle, they are (objects of) good fortune;—and as to these (objects of) good fortune, they are yonder sun : he is that one to the south of them.

9. Now some lay down these (rows of bricks)¹ immediately after the two containing the Trivrit, saying, 'They are the tongue and the jaws: those fourteen are the jaws, and those six are the tongue.' Let him not do so : they cause a redundancy,—it would be just as if one were to put two other jaws to the already existing jaws, as if one were to put another tongue to the already existing tongue. That (brick) wherein the head is indeed (includes) the jaws and the tongue.

10. Now some lay down (these bricks) in the intermediate (south-eastern) space of it (the altar)², saying, 'This is the sun : we thus place yonder sun in that direction.' Let him not do so : surely there are those other rites³ by which he places him in that (direction).

11. Some, again, lay them down on the right

¹ Viz. the row of fourteen bricks lying behind the two front bricks, and the row of six bricks again placed behind these. It will be remembered that only the northern one of the two front bricks was laid down at first, and that then three others were placed in the different directions, after which the row of fourteen was laid down behind the front one; and similarly the laying down of the second front brick was separated from that of the second row by the laying down of three other bricks in the different quarters.

² In that case, the two shank-sized bricks are laid down in the south-east corner, and the rows of smaller bricks are placed to the north of them. See Kâty. Srautas. XIV, 10, 4.

³ See, for instance, VI, 7, 3, 9 where the Ukhyā Agni, representing the sun, is held up by the Agniñit (sacrificer) in the south-easterly direction. The south-east corner is sacred to Agni.

(south ¹) side, saying, 'We thus place these signs of good fortune (*puṇyâ lakshmi*) on the right side:' whence he who has a mark ² (*lakshman*) on his right side is said to have good luck (*puṇya-lakshmika*), and on the left side in the case of a woman³; for the woman has her position on the left side (of the man): therefore it is done thus. But let him place them in front; for where the head is there are also the jaws and the tongue: and thus he places the signs of good fortune at the head (or, in the mouth, *mukhataḥ*), whence they say that he who has a (peculiar) mark in his mouth ⁴ has good luck.

12. This, indeed, is Brahman's layer: inasmuch as they (the gods) laid down the Brahman⁵, therefore it is Brahman's layer. It is Pragâpati's layer: inasmuch as they laid down Pragâpati⁶, it is Pragâpati's layer. It is the *Rîshis*' layer: inasmuch as they laid down the *Rîshis*⁷, it is the *Rîshis*' layer. It is Vâyu's layer: inasmuch as they laid down Vâyu⁸, it is Vâyu's layer. It is the Stomas' layer: inasmuch as they laid down the *hymn-forms*⁹, it is the Stomas'

¹ In that case, they are laid down north of the two bricks lying on the southern end of the cross-spine, first the row of fourteen, and then, north of these, the row of six.

² *Yasya dakshinapârsve lakshanam kâyasya vâ varne vâ kimtarâtmakam (?) bhavati*; comm.

³ This clause is rather abrupt, and is, moreover, hardly logical. It is not clear whether it is the two southern bricks that are compared with the woman, or the bricks to be placed alongside of them on the north (left) side.

⁴ Viz. such as an excess of sharp teeth (incisors)—*yasya mukha-lakshanam dakshinadamsh/râtirekâdi bhavati*; comm.

⁵ See VIII, 4, 1, 3.

⁶ See VIII, 4, 1, 4.

⁷ See VIII, 4, 1, 5.

⁸ See VIII, 4, 1, 8.

⁹ See VIII, 4, 1, 4 seq.

layer. It is the layer of the vital airs: inasmuch as they laid down the vital airs¹, it is the layer of the vital airs. Hence, whatsoever one may know, that comes to be included in the ancestry, in the kinship² of this layer.—He then lays down two Lokamprînâs (space-filling bricks) in that corner³: the significance of these (will be explained) farther on⁴. He throws loose soil thereon: the significance of this (will be explained) farther on⁵.

THE FIFTH LAYER.

FIFTH ADHYÂYA. FIRST BRÂHMANA.

1. He lays down the fifth layer. For now, having laid down the fourth layer, the gods mounted it,—having completed what is above the air, and below the sky, they mounted it.

2. They spake, 'Meditate ye (*kṛtay*)!' whereby, doubtless, they meant to say, 'Seek ye a layer (*kṛti*)! Seek ye from hence upwards!' Whilst meditating, they saw that fifth layer, the far-shining heaven: that world pleased them.

3. They desired, 'Would that we could make that world foeless, undisturbed!' They spake, 'Think ye upon this, how we shall make this world

¹ See VIII, 4, 1, 5.

² Or, in the (symbolic) meaning. The literal reading of the clause is,—'Thereby this layer of his becomes possessed of an ancestry and kinship (or mystic sense).'

³ Viz. in the north-east corner, or on the left shoulder, whence, in two turns, the available spaces of the altar are filled up. In laying down the Lokamprînâs of the first three layers he started from the south-east, the south-west, and the north-west corners respectively. Cf. p. 22, note 1; p. 41, note 1; p. 58, note 1.

⁴ See VIII, 7, 2, 4 seq.

⁵ See VIII, 7, 3, 1 seq.

foeless, undisturbed!' They spake, 'Meditate ye!' whereby, indeed, they meant to say, 'Seek ye a layer! Seek ye how we shall make this world foeless, undisturbed!'

4. Whilst meditating, they saw these Asapatnâ ('foeless') bricks; they laid them down, and by means of them they made that world foeless, undisturbed; and because by means of them they made that world foeless, undisturbed, these (are called) Asapatnâs. And in like manner does the Sacrificer, by laying them down, now make that world foeless, undisturbed. On all (four) sides he lays them down: on all sides he thus makes that world foeless, undisturbed. He places them on the other side: he thereby makes that whole world foeless, undisturbed.

5. He then lays down the Virâgs¹ (far-shining bricks): this Virâg, indeed, is that far-shining (virâg) fifth layer which the gods saw. He lays them down by tens: the Virâg (metre) consists of ten syllables, and this layer is 'virâg.' He places them on every side; for he who shines (rules) in one direction only, does not shine far and wide, but whosoever shines in all directions, he alone shines far and wide.

6. And as to why he lays down those Asapatnâs. Now at that time, when that (part) of his body had been restored, evil beset Pragâpati on every side. He saw those foeless bricks, and laid them down, and by means of them he drove off evil, for foe means evil; and because, by means of them he drove off the foe, evil, therefore they are (called) 'foeless' (bricks).

¹ For particulars respecting these, also called *Khandasyâh*, see VIII, 5, 2, 1, seq.

7. And what the gods did, the same is done now. Evil, indeed, does not now beset this (Sacrificer), but when he now does this, it is that he wants to do what the gods did; and he thereby drives off whatever evil, whatever foe besets him; and because, by means of them, he drives off the foe, evil, therefore they are (called) the 'foeless' (bricks). He places them on every side: he thereby drives off the foe, evil, on every side. He places them on the other side: from his whole self he thereby drives off the foe, evil.

8. He lays down (one) in front¹, with (Vâg. S. XV, 1), 'O Agni, drive away the foes of ours that are born, drive back those unborn, O knower of beings! cheer us, kindly and unfrowning! may we be in thy threefold-sheltering, steadfast protection!' as the text so the sense. Then behind, with (Vâg. S. XV, 2), 'With might drive away the foes of ours that are born,

¹ The first four of the five Asapatnâs are laid down near the four ends of the spines (in the order east, west, south, north); their exact place being the second space on the left side of the spine (in looking towards them from the centre), that is to say, the space of one (? or half a) foot being left between them and the respective spine. Their position thus is the same as those of the Âsvinîs in the second layer (see p. 31, note 1) except that these were placed on the Retaḥsiḥ range instead of at the ends of the spines. The line-marks of these four bricks run parallel to the respective spines. The fifth Asapatnâ is thus laid down north of the southern one, so as to leave the space of a cubit (about a foot and a half) between them. These latter two Asapatnâs are full-sized bricks (one foot square), and not half-sized, as were the two southern Âsvinîs. Moreover, whilst the southern Asapatnâ has its line-marks running parallel to the adjoining cross-spine (south to north), the fifth Asapatnâ has them running from west to east (? as well as from south to north).

drive back, O knower of beings, those unborn! cheer us with kindly feeling! may we prevail! drive off our foes!' as the text so the sense.

9. That which is (placed) in front is Agni, and that behind is Agni: with Agni he (Pragâpati) then drove away evil both in front and in the rear; and in like manner now does the Sacrificer with Agni drive away evil both in front and in the rear.

10. Then on the right (south) side, with (Vâg. S. XV, 3), 'The sixteenfold Stoma, vigour, wealth!' The Trishṭubh consists of eleven syllables, and—the air being of Trishṭubh nature—there are (in the air) four quarters. The thunderbolt is fifteenfold, and yonder sun is the sixteenfold wielder of that thunderbolt: with that thunderbolt, with that Trishṭubh, he (Pragâpati) drove away evil in the south; and in like manner does the Sacrificer, with that thunderbolt, with that Trishṭubh, now drive away evil in the south.

11. Then on the left (north) side, with, 'The forty-four-fold Stoma, lustre, wealth!' The Trishṭubh consists of forty-four syllables, and the thunderbolt is of Trishṭubh nature: with that forty-four-fold thunderbolt, with that Trishṭubh, he (Pragâpati) drove away evil in the north; and in like manner does the Sacrificer, with that thunderbolt, with that Trishṭubh, now drive away evil in the north.

12. Then in the middle (the fifth), with, 'Agni's soil-cover thou art!'—the fourth layer indeed is the Brahman, and the Brahman is Agni, and this, the fifth layer is, as it were, the (soil-)cover of that (fourth layer);—'his sap, in truth: may the All-gods sing thy praises! Seat thee here, laden with Stomas, and rich in fat! Gain for us, by

sacrifice, wealth with offspring!' as the text so the sense.

13. This one he lays down with its line-marks running eastward and crosswise¹; for by that one Pragâpati then cut out the root of evil, and in like manner does this (Sacrificer) now thereby cut out the root of evil. On the right (south) side (from the centre he places it), for the thunderbolt has a string² on the right side;—inside the one in the southern quarter, for it is for the sake of extension that he leaves that space.

14. The one which (lies) in front is the out-breathing, the one at the back the off-breathing: by the out-breathing he (Pragâpati) then drove away evil in front, and by the off-breathing in the rear; and in like manner does the Sacrificer now by the out-breathing drive away evil in front, and by the off-breathing in the rear.

15. And the two on both sides (of the spine) are the two arms: whatever evil there was sideways of him, that he drove away with his arms; and in like manner does this Sacrificer now drive away with his arms whatever evil there is sideways of him.

¹ That is to say, crosswise, or marked in the opposite direction to the Asapatnâ brick near it, viz. to the one placed east of the southern end of the cross-spine which (like all bricks placed between shoulder and thigh) has its line-marks running from south to north. The fifth Asapatnâ, lying immediately north of that southern one, thus has its line-marks parallel, not (as one would expect) to the cross-spine, but to the further removed spine.

² This is a doubtful rendering of 'udyâma,' which is accepted by the St. Petersburg. Dict. for 'shad-udyâma,' at VI, 7, 1, 16, 18; whilst in the present case 'dakshinâta-udyâma' seems to be taken by it to mean 'southward erected, southward drawn (aufgespannt).' Udyâma, in the sense 'extension,' might mean a protruding part, serving as a handle.

16. The soil-bedded one¹ means food: whatever evil there was above him, that he (Pragâpati) drove away by means of food; and in like manner does the Sacrificer now, by means of food, drive away whatever evil there is above him.

17. And, verily, whenever he, knowing this, breathes out, he thereby drives away the evil which is in front of him; and when he breathes backward, he thereby (drives away) that which is in the rear; and when he does work with his arms, he thereby (drives away) that which is sideways of him; and when he eats food, he thereby (drives away) that (evil) which is above him: at all times, indeed, even while sleeping, does he who knows this drive away evil. Hence, one must not speak ill of him who knows this, lest one should be his evil (enemy).

SECOND BRÂHMANA.

1. He then lays down those *Khandasyâs*² (relating to the metres). For Pragâpati, having freed himself from evil, death, asked for food; hence, to this day, a sick man, when he gets better, asks for food; and people have hope for him, thinking, 'He asks for food, he will live.' The gods gave him that food, these (bricks) relating to the metres; for the metres are cattle, and cattle are food. They (the metres) pleased him, and inasmuch as they pleased (*khand*) him they are (called) metres (*khandas*).

2. He lays them down by tens,—the Virâg consists of ten syllables, and all food is 'virâg'

¹ That is, the fifth Asapatnâ, which has a bed or layer of loose soil (*purîsha*) spread under it.

² The *Khandasyâ* or Virâg bricks are laid down at the end of the spines, ten in each quarter.

(shining, or ruling) : he thus bestows all food on him. On all (four) sides he places them : from all sides he thus bestows food on him.

3. [He lays them down, with, Vâg. S. XV, 4. 5], 'The Course metre,'—the 'course' metre, doubtless, is this (terrestrial) world ;—'the Expanse metre,'—the 'expanse' metre, doubtless, is the air ; 'the Blissful metre,'—the 'blissful' metre, doubtless, is the sky ;—'the Encircler metre,'—the 'encircler' metre, doubtless, is the regions ;—'the Vestment metre,'—the 'vestment' metre, doubtless, is food ;—'the Mind metre,'—the 'mind' metre, doubtless, is Pragâpati ; 'the Extent metre,'—the 'extent' metre, doubtless, is yonder sun.

4. 'The Stream metre,'—the 'stream' metre, doubtless, is the breath ;—'the Sea metre,'—the 'sea' metre, doubtless, is the mind ;—'the Flood metre,'—the 'flood' metre, doubtless, is speech ;—'the Kakubh (peak) metre,'—the 'Kakubh' metre, doubtless, is the out(and in)-breathing ;—'the Three-peaked metre,'—the 'three-peaked' metre, doubtless, is the up-breathing ;—'the Wisdom metre,'—the 'wisdom' metre, doubtless, is the threefold science ;—'the Arikupa metre,'—the 'Arikupa'¹ metre, doubtless, is the water ;—'the Aksharapañkti metre,'—the Aksharapañkti (row of syllables) metre, doubtless, is yonder (heavenly) world ;—'the Padapañkti metre,'—the Padapañkti (row of words or steps) metre, doubtless, is this (terrestrial) world ;—'the Vishârapañkti metre,'—the Vishârapañkti (row of expansion) metre, doubtless, is the regions ;—'the Bright Razor metre,'—the 'bright

¹ A word of doubtful meaning (? drinking its own windings).

razor' metre, doubtless, is yonder sun;—'the Vestment metre, the Investment metre,'—the 'vestment' metre, doubtless, is food, and the 'investment' metre is food.

5. 'The Uniting metre,'—the 'uniting' metre, doubtless, is the night;—'the Separating metre,'—the 'separating' metre, doubtless, is the day;—'the *Bṛihat* metre,'—the '*bṛihat*' (great) metre, doubtless, is yonder world;—'the Rathantara metre,'—the 'rathantara' metre, doubtless, is this world;—'the Troop metre,'—the 'troop' metre, doubtless, is the wind;—'the Yoke metre,'—the 'yoke' metre, doubtless, is the air;—'the Devourer metre,'—the 'devourer' metre, doubtless, is food;—'the Bright metre,'—the 'bright' metre, doubtless, is the fire;—'the *Samstubbh* metre, the *Anushṭubh* metre,'—the '*samstubbh*' metre, doubtless, is speech, and the '*anushṭubh*' metre is speech;—'the Course metre, the Expanse metre,'—the meaning of this has been explained.

6. 'The Strength metre,'—the 'strength' metre, doubtless, is food;—'the Strength-maker metre,' the 'strength-maker' metre, doubtless, is Agni (the fire);—'the Striver metre,'—the 'striver' metre, doubtless, is yonder world;—'the Ample metre,'—the 'ample' metre, doubtless, is this world;—'the Cover metre,'—the 'cover' metre, doubtless, is the air;—'the Unclimbable metre,'—the 'unclimbable' metre, doubtless, is yonder sun;—'the Slow metre,'—the 'slow' metre, doubtless, is the *Pañkti*;—'the *Añkāṅka* metre,'—the '*añkāṅka*'¹ metre, doubtless, is water.

¹ Another word of doubtful meaning (? winding-winding).

7. Now of those which he lays down in front, the first is the out (and in)-breathing, the second the through-breathing, the third the up-breathing, the fourth the up-breathing, the fifth the through-breathing, the sixth the out-breathing, the seventh the out-breathing, the eighth the through-breathing, the ninth the up-breathing, and the tenth, in this case, is the Sacrificer himself: this same Sacrificer, being raised and firmly established on this Virâg (brick), made up of breath, lays down (bricks) extending both backward and forward, for the breathings move both backward and forward.

8. And of those on the right (south) side, the first is Agni (fire), the second Vâyu (the wind), the third Âditya (the sun), the fourth Âditya, the fifth Vâyu, the sixth Agni, the seventh Agni, the eighth Vâyu, the ninth Âditya, and the tenth, in this case, is the Sacrificer himself: this same Sacrificer, being raised and firmly established on this Virâg, made up of deities, puts on (bricks) extending both hitherwards and thitherwards, for those gods move both hitherwards and thitherwards.

9. And of those behind, the first is this (terrestrial) world, the second the air, the third the sky, the fourth the sky, the fifth the air, the sixth this world, the seventh this world, the eighth the air, the ninth the sky, and the tenth, in this case, is the Sacrificer himself: this same Sacrificer, being raised and firmly established on that Virâg, made up of the worlds, lays down (bricks) extending both hitherwards and thitherwards;—whence these worlds extend both hitherwards and thitherwards.

10. And of those on the left (north) side, the first the summer, the second the rainy season, the

third the winter, the fourth the winter, the fifth the rainy season, the sixth the summer, the seventh the summer, the eighth the rainy season, the ninth the winter, and the tenth, in this case, is the Sacrificer himself: this same Sacrificer, being raised and firmly established on that Virâg, made up of the seasons, lays down (bricks) extending both hitherwards and thitherwards;—whence those seasons move both hitherwards and thitherwards¹.

11. And, again, those which he lays down in front are the vital airs. There are ten of them, for there are ten vital airs. He places them in the front part, for these vital airs are in the front part.

12. And those on the right (south) side are the deities,—Agni, the Earth, Vâyu, the Air, Âditya, the Sky, Kandra (the moon), the Stars, Food, and Water.

13. And those behind are the regions (quarters),—four regions, four intermediate regions, the upper region, and this (earth).

14. And those on the left (north) side are the months,—two spring-months, two summer-months, two months of the rainy season, two autumn-months, and two winter-months.

15. And, again, the first ten are this (terrestrial) world, the second the air, the third the sky. By the first set of ten they (the gods) ascended this (earth), by the second the air, by the third the sky; and in like manner does the Sacrificer now, by the first set of ten, ascend this (earth), by the second the air, and by the third the sky.

16. This, then, is, as it were, an ascent away from

¹ That is to say, they come and go.

here; but this (earth) is the foundation: the gods came back to this (earth), the foundation; and in like manner does the Sacrificer now come back to this (earth), the foundation. And that last set of ten is this world: hence, even as (takes place) that start from the first set of ten, so from the last; for this is the same,—those two sets of ten (the first and last) are this (terrestrial) world.

17. Now these are forty bricks and forty formulas,—that makes eighty, and eighty (asîti) means food¹: thus whatever he now says that he makes to be food, asîti, and gives it him, and thereby gratifies him (Agni).

THIRD BRÂHMANA.

1. He then lays down the Stomabhâgâ (praise-sharing bricks). For at that time Indra set his mind upon that food of Pragâpati, and tried to go from him. He spake, 'Why dost thou go from me? why dost thou leave me?'—'Give me the essence of that food: enter me therewith!'—'So be it!' so he gave him the essence of that food, and entered him therewith.

2. Now he who was that Pragâpati is this very Agni (the fire-altar) that is now being built up; and that food is these *Khandasyâ* (bricks); and that essence of food is these Stomabhâgâs; and he who was Indra is yonder Âditya (the sun): he indeed is the Stoma (hymn of praise), for whatsoever praises they sing, it is him they praise thereby,—it is to that same Stoma he gave a share; and inasmuch as

¹ The author apparently connects 'asîti' with the root 'as,' to eat.

he gave a share (bhāga) to that Stoma, these are (called) Stomabhāgās.

3. [He lays them down, with, Vâg. S. XV, 6. 7],
 'By the ray quicken thou the truth for truth!'—the ray, doubtless, is that (sun), and ray is food; having put together that (sun) and the essence thereof, he makes it enter his own self;—'by the starting, by the law, quicken the law!'—the starting, doubtless, is that (sun), and the starting also means food: having put together that (sun) and the essence thereof, he makes it enter his own self;—'by the going after, by the sky, quicken the sky!'—the going after, doubtless, is that (sun), and the going after also means food; having put together that (sun) and the essence thereof, he makes it enter his own self. Thus whatever he mentions here, that and the essence thereof he puts together and makes it enter his own self: 'By such and such quicken thou such and such!'—'Such and such thou art: for such and such (I deposit) thee!'—'By the lord, by strength, quicken strength!' thus they (the bricks) are divided into three kinds, for food is of three kinds.

4. And as to why he lays down the Stomabhāgās. Now the gods, having laid down the far-shining layer, mounted it. They spake, 'Meditate ye!' whereby, doubtless, they meant to say, 'Seek ye a layer!' Whilst meditating, they saw even the firmament, the heavenly world, and laid it down. Now that same firmament, the heavenly world, indeed is the same as these Stomabhāgās, and thus in laying down these, he lays down the firmament, the heavenly world.

5. The first three (bricks) are this (terrestrial)

world, the second (three) the air, and the third (three) the sky, the fourth the eastern, the fifth the southern, the sixth the western, and the seventh the northern regions.

6. These twenty-one bricks, then, are these worlds and the regions, and these worlds and the regions are a foundation, and these worlds and the regions are twenty-one: whence they say, 'the *Ekavimsa* (twenty-one-fold) is a foundation.'

7. And the eight bricks which remain over are the *Gâyatri* consisting of eight syllables; but the *Gâyatri* is the Brahman, and as to that Brahman, it is yonder burning disk: it burns, while firmly-established on that twenty-one-fold one, as on a foundation, whence it does not fall down.

8. Now some lay down a thirtieth (*Stomabhâgâ*), with, 'Beautifully arrayed, quicken thou the *kshatra* for the *kshatra*!' saying, 'Of thirty syllables is the *Virâg* (metre) and this layer is *virâg* (far-shining).' But let him not do so: they (who do so) exceed (this layer so as not to be) amounting to the twenty-one-fold, and to the *Gâyatri*; and that undiminished *Virâg*, doubtless, is the world of Indra: in the world of Indra they raise a spiteful enemy of equal power (to Indra), and thrust Indra out of the world of Indra. And at his own sacrifice the Sacrificer assuredly is Indra: in the Sacrificer's realm they raise for the Sacrificer a spiteful enemy of equal power, and thrust the Sacrificer out of the Sacrificer's own realm. But, surely, that fire which they bring hither is no other than this Sacrificer: by means of his foundation it is he who is the thirtieth (brick) in this (layer).

FOURTH BRĀHMANA.

1. He lays them down on the range of the *Ashādḥā*; for the *Ashādḥā* is speech, and this (set of bricks¹) is the essence (of food): he thus lays into speech the essence of food; whence it is through (the channel of) speech that one distinguishes the essence of food for all the limbs.

2. And, again, as to why (on the range) of the *Ashādḥā*;—the *Ashādḥā*, doubtless, is this (earth), and the *Stomabhāgās* are yonder sun: he thus establishes yonder sun upon this earth as a firm foundation.

3. And, again, why (on that) of the *Ashādḥā*;—the *Ashādḥā*, doubtless, is this (earth), and the *Stomabhāgās* are the heart: he thus lays into this (earth) the heart, the mind: whence on this (earth) one thinks with the heart, with the mind. He lays them down on every side: he thus places the heart, the mind everywhere; whence everywhere on this (earth) one thinks with the heart, with the mind. And, moreover, these (bricks) are lucky signs: he places them on all sides; whence they say of him who has a (lucky) sign (*lakshman*) on every (or any) side that he has good luck (*pūnyalakshmi*).

4. He then covers them with loose soil; for loose soil (*purisha*) means food, and this (set of bricks) is the essence (of food): he thus makes it invisible, for invisible, as it were, is the essence of food.

5. And, again, as to why (he covers it) with loose

¹ Or, this fire-altar.

soil ;—loose soil, doubtless, means food, and this (set of bricks) is the essence : he thus joins and unites the food and its essence.

6. And, again, as to why with loose soil ;—the Stomabhâgâs are the heart, and the loose soil is the pericardium : he thus encloses the heart in the pericardium.

7. And, again, as to why with loose soil ;—this fire-altar is the year, and by means of the soil-coverings of the layers he divides it : those first four layers are four seasons. And having laid down the Stomabhâgâs, he throws loose soil thereon : that is the fifth layer, that is the fifth season.

8. Here now they say, 'Since the other layers conclude with Lokamprînâs (space-filling bricks), and no space-filler is laid down in this (layer) : what, then, is the space-filler therein ?' The space-filler, surely, is yonder sun, and this layer is he ; and this is of itself¹ a space-filling layer. And what there is above this (layer) up to the covering of soil that is the sixth layer, that is the sixth season.

9. He then throws down the loose soil. Thereon he lays down the Vikarṇi and the naturally-perforated (brick) ; he bestrews them with chips of gold, and places the fire thereon : that is the seventh layer, that is the seventh season.

10. But, indeed, there are only six of them ; for as to the Vikarṇi and the Svayam-âtrinnâ, they belong to the sixth layer.

11. And, indeed, there are only five of them,—on the other (layers) he throws down the loose soil with a prayer, and here (he does so) silently : in that

¹ Or, and he (the sun) himself.

respect this is not a layer. And the other layers end with space-fillers, but here he lays down no space-filler: in that respect also this is not a layer.

12. And, indeed, there are only three of them,—the first layer is this very (terrestrial) world; and the uppermost (layer) is the sky; and those three (intermediate layers) are the air, for there is, as it were, only one air here: thus (there are) three, or five, or six, or seven of them.

SIXTH ADHYĀYA. FIRST BRĀHMANA.

1. He lays down the Nâkasads (firmament-seated bricks): the firmament-seated ones, assuredly, are the gods. In this (layer) that whole fire-altar becomes completed, and therein these (bricks are) the firmament (nâka), the world of heaven: it is therein that the gods seated themselves; and inasmuch as the gods seated themselves on that firmament, in the world of heaven, the gods are the firmament-seated. And in like manner does the Sacrificer, when he lays down these (bricks), now seat himself on that firmament, in the world of heaven.

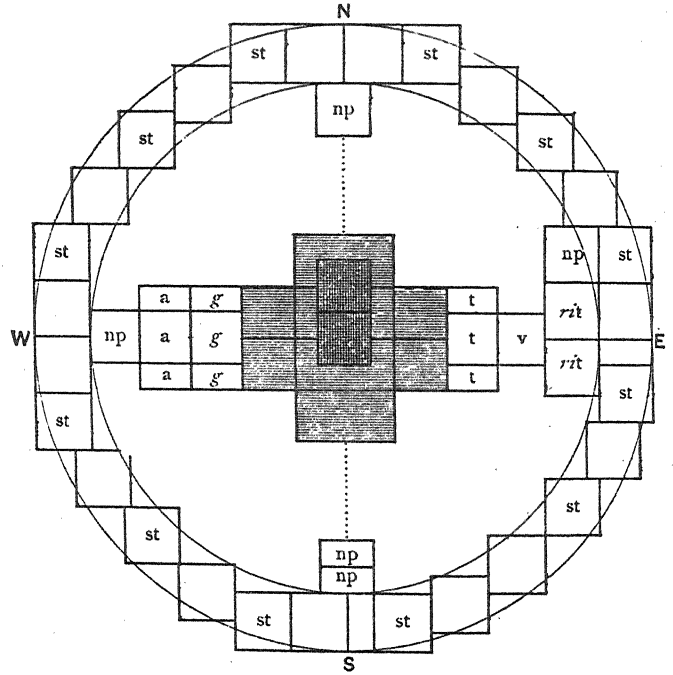
2. And, again, why he lays down the Nâkasads. Now at that time the gods saw that firmament, the world of heaven, these Stomabhâgâs¹. They spake

¹ The central portion of the fifth layer is here characterised as symbolically representing the firmament, the blue canopy of heaven, and the region of bliss beyond it. The outer rim of this central structure is formed by a continuous ring of twenty-nine Stomabhâgâ (st) bricks representing, it would seem, the horizon on which the vault of heaven rests. There is some doubt as to the exact manner in which this ring of bricks is to be arranged. According to Kâty. Srautas. XVII, 11, 10, fifteen bricks are to be placed south (and fourteen north) of the anûka, or spine (running through the

‘Think ye upon this, how we may seat ourselves on that firmament, in the world of heaven!’ They spake,

centre from west to east). As regards the southern semicircle, the fifteen bricks are to be distributed in such a way that eight fall within the south-easterly, and seven into the south-westerly, quadrant. Some such arrangement as that adopted in the diagram below would seem to be what is intended. It will be seen that this arrangement includes two half-size bricks in the south-easterly

THE CENTRAL PART OF THE FIFTH LAYER.



quadrant, the one lying immediately south of the ‘spine,’ and the other immediately east of the ‘cross-spine.’ It is an awkward fact, however, that one of the commentators on the Sûtra referred to, states that there are to be two half-foot bricks, (one) on each side of the spine—that is, as would seem, the ‘cross-spine.’ I cannot but think, however, that this must be a mistake, as otherwise it would seem to make the construction of a continuous ring impossible. Inside this ring, on the adjoining range (*viz.* the *Ritavyâ*

‘Meditate ye! seek ye a layer!’ whereby, indeed, they said, ‘Seek ye this, how we may seat ourselves on this firmament, in the world of heaven!’

3. Whilst meditating, they saw these bricks, the Nākasads, and placed them on (the altar): by means of them they seated themselves on that firmament, in the world of heaven; and inasmuch as through them they seated themselves (sad) on that firmament (nāka), in the world of heaven, these are the Nāka-sad (bricks); and in like manner does the Sacrificer, when he lays down these (bricks), now seat himself on that firmament, in the world of heaven.

range, being the fifth range from the centre, see the diagram of the first layer, p. 17), five Nākasads (n) are placed on the spines, with the exception of the eastern one, which is to be placed in the second space north of the spine, that is to say, a foot from it (so as to leave space between it and the spine for the left Rītavyā; cf. VIII, 7, 1, 11, with note). In the south two half-sized bricks are laid down instead of one full-sized one. All these five bricks are of half the usual thickness so as to allow five others, the Pañkākūḍās (p), being placed upon them. Of the khandasyās, or bricks representing the metres, only three sets (of three bricks each, viz. a full-sized one flanked on either side by a half-sized one) fall within the circle formed by the stomabhāgā-ring, viz. the trishṭubhs (t), gagatīs (g), and anuṣṭubhs (a). The remaining space in the centre is now filled up by the Gārhapatya hearth, consisting of eight bricks. Thereon is placed a second layer of eight bricks exactly corresponding to the first, and called Punarṅkiti. This pile (marked by hatching in the sketch) thus rises above the fifth layer by the full depth of a brick. He then lays down the two Rītavyās (rī) just within the ring on the east side; and the Visvagyotis (v), representing the sun, immediately west of them. Having now filled up the available spaces of the layer with Lokampriyās, and scattered loose soil on it, he finally lays down two perforated bricks (marked in the sketch by cross-hatching), the Vikarṇī and the Svayamātrinnā, so that the latter lies exactly in the centre, and the former immediately north of it, over the ‘cross-spine.’

4. He places them in the (four) quarters; for that firmament, the world of heaven, is the quarters: he thus establishes them in the world of heaven. On the range of the *Ritavyâs* (he places them); for the *Ritavyâs* (seasonal bricks) are the year, and the world of heaven is the year: it is in the world of heaven he thus establishes them. Within the *Stomabhâgâs* (he places them); for this is the firmament, the world of heaven: it is therein he thus establishes them.

5. In front he lays down one, with (Vâg. S. XV, 10), 'Queen thou art, the Eastern region,' for a queen indeed the eastern region is;—'The divine Vasus are thine overlords¹,' for the divine Vasus are indeed the overlords of that region;—'Agni is the repeller of shafts,' for Agni, indeed, is here the repeller of shafts;—'The Trivrit-Stoma may uphold thee on earth!' for by the threefold hymn(-form) this one is indeed upheld on earth;—'The Âgya-sastra may support thee for steadiness² sake³!' for by the Âgya-sastra it is indeed supported on earth for steadiness' sake;—'the Rathantara-sâman for stability in the air!' for by the Rathantara-sâman it is indeed established in the air;—'May the *Rishis*, the first-born, magnify⁴ thee among the gods!'—the *Rishis*, the first-born, doubtless, are the vital airs⁴, for they are the first-born Brahman⁵;—'with the measure, the width of the sky!'—that is, 'as great as the sky is, so much in width may they broaden thee!'—

¹ Or, perhaps, 'the Vasus are thy divine overlords;' but see paragraph 9.

² Lit. for unwaveringness (so as not to totter).

³ Lit. broaden, widen.

⁴ See VI, 1, 1, 1; VII, 2, 3, 5.

⁵ See VI, 1, 1, 8.

‘And he, the upholder, and the overlord,’—these two are speech and mind, for these two uphold everything here;—‘may they all, of one mind, settle thee, and the Sacrificer, on the back of the firmament, in the world of heaven!’ as the text, so its import.

6. Then on the right (south) side (he lays down one¹), with (Vāg. S. XV, 11), ‘Wide-ruling thou art, the southern region,’ for wide-ruling indeed is that southern region;—‘The divine Rudras are thine overlords,’ for the divine Rudras are indeed the overlords of that region;—‘Indra is the repeller of shafts,’ for Indra, indeed, is here the repeller of shafts;—‘The *Pañkadasa*-stoma may uphold thee on earth!’ for by the fifteenfold hymn it is indeed upheld on earth;—‘The *Praūga*-sastra may support thee for steadiness’ sake!’ for by the *Praūga*-sastra it is indeed supported on earth for steadiness’ sake;—‘the *Brīhat*-sāman for stability in the air!’ for by the *Brīhat*-sāman it is indeed established in the air;—‘May the *Rishis*, the first-born, magnify thee among gods . . .!’ the import of this (and the rest) has been explained.

7. Then behind (he lays down one), with (Vāg. S. XV, 12), ‘All-ruling thou art, the western region,’ for all-ruling indeed is that western region;—‘The divine *Ādityas* are thine overlords,’ for the divine *Ādityas* are indeed the overlords of that region;—‘*Varuṇa* is the repeller of shafts,’ for *Varuṇa*, indeed, is here the repeller of shafts;—‘The *Saptadasa*-stoma may uphold thee on

¹ That is, the southern of the two half-sized ones to be placed in this quarter.

earth!' for by the seventeenfold hymn it is indeed upheld on earth;—'The Marutvatīya-sastra may support thee for steadiness' sake!' for by the Marutvatīya-sastra it is indeed supported on earth for steadiness' sake;—'the Vairūpa-sāman for stability in the air!' for by the Vairūpa-sāman it is indeed established in the air;—'May the *Rishis*, the first-born, magnify thee among the gods . . .!' the import of this has been explained.

8. Then on the left (north) side (he lays down one), with (*Vāg. S. XV, 13*), 'Self-ruling thou art, the northern region,' for self-ruling that northern region indeed is;—'The divine Maruts are thine overlords,' for the divine Maruts are indeed the overlords of that region;—'Soma is the repeller of shafts,' for Soma, indeed, is here the repeller of shafts;—'The Ekavimsa-stoma may uphold thee on earth!' for by the twenty-one-fold hymn this one is indeed upheld on earth;—'The Nishkevalya-sastra may support thee for steadiness' sake!' for by the Nishkevalya-sastra it is indeed supported on earth for steadiness' sake;—'the Vairāga-sāman for stability in the air!' for by the Vairāga-sāman it is indeed established in the air;—'May the *Rishis*, the first-born, magnify thee among the gods . . .!' the import of this has been explained.

9. Then in the middle (he lays down one¹), with (*Vāg. S. XV, 14*), 'The sovereign mistress thou art, the Great region!' for the sovereign mistress that great region indeed is;—'the All-gods are

¹ That is, he lays down a half-sized brick immediately north of the southern one, and thus in the direction of the centre from that brick.

thine overlords,' for the All-gods are indeed the overlords of that region;—'Bṛihaspati is the repeller of shafts,' for Bṛihaspati, indeed, is here the repeller of shafts;—'The Trinava- and Trayas-trimsa-stomas may uphold thee on earth;—for by the twenty-nine-fold and thirty-three-fold hymns this one is indeed upheld on earth;—'The Vaisvadeva- and Āgnimâruta-sastras may support thee for steadiness' sake!' for by the Vaisvadeva- and Āgnimâruta-sastras it is indeed supported on earth for steadiness' sake;—'May the Rishis, the first-born, magnify thee among the gods ...!' the import of this has been explained.

10. Thus much, indeed, is the whole sacrifice, and the sacrifice is the self of the gods: it was after making the sacrifice their own self that the gods seated themselves on that firmament, in the world of heaven; and in like manner does the Sacrificer now, after making the sacrifice his own self, seat himself on that firmament, in the world of heaven.

11. He then lays down the *Pañkakûdâ* ('five-knobbed') bricks; for the Nâkasads are (parts of) the sacrifice, and so indeed are the *Pañkakûdâs* the sacrifice: the Nâkasads are these four sacrificial priests together with the Sacrificer as the fifth; and the *Pañkakûdâs* are the Hotrâs¹. Now the Hotrâs are additional (to the officiating staff, or to the Hotrî) and whatever is additional is an excrescence (*kûda*); and hence, as they are five additional (bricks), they are (called) *Pañkakûdâs*².

¹ That is, the offices of Hotrakas, or assistants to the Hotrî.

² These bricks would seem to have had some kind of protuberances or bulgings (*kûda*), or perhaps tufts, resembling a man's crest-lock or top-knot (*kûdâ*). Possibly, however, these five bricks,

12. And, again, as to why he lays down the Nākasad-Pañkakûdās;—it is for the sake of completeness; for the Nākasads are the self, and the Pañkakûdās the mate, and this, the mate, doubtless, is one half of the self; for when one is with his mate¹, then he is whole and complete.

13. And, again, as to why he lays down the Nākasad-Pañkakûdās;—the Nākasads are the self, and the Pañkakûdās are offspring (or subjects)². Now progeny is something additional to the self, and whatever is additional is an excrescence; and hence, as they are five additional ones, they are (called) Pañkakûdās.

14. And, again, as to why he lays down the Nākasad-Pañkakûdās;—the Nākasads are the regions, and the Pañkakûdās, too, are the regions: what five regions there are on this side of yonder sun, they are the Nākasads, and those which are on the other side are the Pañkakûdās. Now those regions which are on the other side of yonder sun are additional, and what is additional is an excrescence (*kûda*): and hence, as they are five additional ones, they are called Pañkakûdās.

15. And, again, as to why he lays down the Pañkakûdās. Now, at that time the gods were afraid lest the fiends, the Rakshas, should destroy

being placed on the top of the Nākasads, are themselves here represented as something additional. Such, at any rate, seems to be the definition of the term given in the text above and in parag. 13. The MS. of the commentary reads, 'kāyasya vai tat pāvargitam (!) sa kûdah kerapuṅgaḥ.'

¹ This, doubtless, is here the meaning of *mithunam*; and similarly in I, 7, 2, 11, we ought to translate, 'The *vasha/kâra* is the mate of those two (*anuvâkyâ* and *yâgyâ*).'

² See paragraph 21.

these worlds of theirs from above. They put those protectors over these worlds, to wit, those shafts and missiles; and in like manner does the Sacrificer now put those protectors over these worlds, to wit, those shafts and missiles.

16. He places one in front, with (Vâg. S. XV, 15), 'This one in front, the yellow-haired one,'—Agni, no doubt, is in front; and as to his saying of him as (being) 'in front,' it is because they take him out (of the Gârhapatya hearth) towards the front, and attend upon him towards the front¹; and as to why he calls him yellow-haired, it is because Agni is, as it were, yellow;—'the sun-rayed one,' for Agni's rays are like those of the sun;—'and Rathagrîtsa and Rathaugas², his commander and his chieftain,' the two spring-months are these two;—'and the nymphs Puñgikasthalâ and Kratussthala³,'—'quarter and intermediate quarter,' said Mâhitthi; but army and battle these two are;—'mordacious beasts the shaft, manslaughter the missile,'—inasmuch as they fight in army and battle, those mordacious beasts are the shaft; 'manslaughter the missile,'—inasmuch as they slay one another, manslaughter is the missile;—'to them be homage!' it is to them he pays homage;—'be they gracious unto us!' they are indeed gracious to him;—'he whom we hate, and he who hates us,

¹ See p. 3, note 2.

² That is, 'skilled in chariot (-fight),' and 'mighty in chariot (-fight).'

³ The meaning of these names is rather obscure: the symbolical explanations 'army and battle' might seem to point to some such meanings as 'grounded on heaps' and 'grounded on intelligence (or plan).'

him we put into their jaws!' whomsoever he hates, and whoever hates him, him he puts into their jaws. 'N. N. I put into their jaws,' thus he may name him whom he hates, and thereafter he will not be there any more. Let him disregard this also, for indeed marked out of himself is he whom he who knows this hates.

17. Then on the right (south) side (he places one), with (Vâg. S. XV, 16), 'This one on the right, the all-worker,' the all-worker is this Vâyu (the wind) who blows here, for he makes everything here; and because he speaks of him as (being) 'on the right,' therefore it is in the south that he blows most;—'and Rathasvana (chariot-noise) and Rathekitra (glorious on the chariot), his commander and chieftain;' these are the two summer-months;—'and the two nymphs, Menakâ and Sahaganyâ,'—'quarter and intermediate quarter,' said Mâhitthi; but these two are heaven and earth;—'Goblins the shaft, demons the missile;' for goblins indeed are here the shaft (weapon), and demons the missile;—'to them be homage...!' the import of this has been explained.

18. Then behind (in the west, he lays down a brick), with (Vâg. S. XV, 17), 'This one behind, the all-embracer,'—the all-embracer, doubtless, is yonder sun; for as soon as he rises all this embracing space comes into existence; and because he speaks of him as (being) 'behind,' therefore one sees him only when he goes towards the back (west);—'and Rathaprota (fixed on the chariot) and Asamaratha (of matchless chariot), his commander and chieftain;' these are the two rainy months;—'and the nymphs Pramloḥantî (the setting one) and

Anumloṅanti (the rising one),—‘quarter and intermediate quarter,’ said Mâhitthi, but they are day and night, for these two set and rise; ‘tigers the shaft, snakes the missile,’ for indeed tigers are here the shaft, and snakes the missile;—‘to them be homage . . .!’ the import of this has been explained.

19. Then on the left (north) side (he places one), with (Vâg. S. XV, 17), ‘This one on the left, of everflowing blessings;’ on the left is the sacrifice; and as to why he speaks of it as ‘on the left,’ it is because the sacrifice is performed from the left (north) side; and as to why he speaks of it as ‘of ever-flowing blessings (*saṃyadvasu*),’ they do indeed flow together (*saṃyanti*) to the sacrifice, thinking, ‘this is a blessing;’—‘and Târکشya and Arishṭanemi, his commander and chieftain,’ these are the two autumn-months; ‘and the nymphs Visvâṅi (the all-inclined) and Ghrîṭâṅi (the ghee-inclined),’—‘quarter and intermediate quarter,’ said Mâhitthi, but they are the vedi (altar) and the offering-spoon, for the altar is all-inclined¹, and the offering-spoon is ghee-inclined;—‘water the shaft, wind the missile,’—water indeed is here the shaft, and wind the missile, for from this side it blows hot, and from that side cold;—‘to them be homage . . .!’ the import of this has been explained.

20. Then in the middle (he lays down one), with (Vâg. S. XV, 19), ‘This one above, the boon-bestower²,’ the one above, doubtless, is Parganya (the rain-god); and when he speaks of him as (being)

¹ That is, extending in every direction, or open (common) to all.

² Lit. ‘he whose boons are (bestowed) hitherwards.’

'above,' it is because Parganya is indeed above; and when he calls him the boon-bestower, it is because from there the boon, rain, food for creatures, is bestowed hitherwards;—'and Senagit (the conqueror of armies) and Sushena (leader of a fine army), his commander and chieftain,' these are the two winter-months;—'and the nymphs, Urvastî and Pûrvasâkitti,'—'quarter and intermediate quarter,' said Mâhitthi, but they are oblation and dakshinâ (priest's sacrificial fee);—'thunder the shaft, lightning the missile,' for indeed thunder is here the shaft, and lightning the missile;—'to them be homage . . .!' the import of this has been explained.

21. These, then, are the shafts and missiles which the gods then put as protectors over these worlds, and as to offspring (or subjects¹), they are the commander and chieftain; and as to the mates, they are those nymphs,—having thus become complete with offspring and with mates, the gods seated themselves on that firmament, in the world of heaven; and in like manner does the Sacrificer, having become complete with offspring and a mate, now seat himself on that firmament, in the world of heaven.

22. Now, these are ten (Nâkasad-Pañkâtûdâ) bricks he lays down;—of ten syllables the Virâg consists, and this layer is virâg (far-shining). There are, however, only five of them, for he lays them down by two and two. And, verily, they are prayers for prosperity to Agni (the fire-altar). He places them in the last layer, for this, the last, layer is the end of Agni: it is thus at the end that he

¹ See paragraph 13.

pronounces the prayers for prosperity to Agni. There are five of them, for at the sacrifice there are five prayers for prosperity¹. Between (each) two he throws loose soil, for these two bricks being fires, he does so fearing lest these two fires should blaze up together. And, moreover, loose soil means food: it is thus by means of food that he brings about concord between them.

23. Now, then, as to the order of proceeding. Having laid down (a brick) in front, he lays down those on the right, behind, on the left, and in the middle. Then the upper ones: having first laid down one in front, he lays down those on the right, on the left, in the middle, and behind. And, indeed, the world of heaven is entered from below, for the gods, having at that time, closed up these worlds on all sides, entered the world of heaven from below; and in like manner does the Sacrificer now, having closed up these worlds on all sides, enter the world of heaven from below.

SECOND BRĀHMANA.

1. He lays down *Kṛandasyās*² (bricks pertaining to the metres). Completed now was the entire

¹ Viz. for long life, offspring, cattle, social distinction, and a seat in heaven;—see the *Sūktavāka* I, 9, 1, 12 seqq.

² The *Kṛandasyās* represent the principal metres, the formulas used in laying down the bricks being composed in the respective metres. They consist of ten sets of three bricks each, representing the ten metres, and an additional (thirty-first) brick representing the *Atikṛandas*, or redundant metre. Each of the ten sets consists of a central brick of full size (a foot square) placed on one of the two spines, and flanked on the two sides not in contact with the spines by two half-size bricks, viz.:—1. *gāyatrī* at the east end of the 'spine'; 2. *trishubh* on the *Retaṣiḥ* range (joining the

Agni (fire-altar). He now wished for distinction¹; for, indeed, heretofore he was not equal thereto, that he should sustain distinction; whence people here say even to this day, 'This one is not equal to sustain distinction, either in regard to kingship or to headmanship.' The gods bestowed on him this distinction, these *Khandasyâs*; for the metres (*Khandas*) are cattle, and cattle are food, and (a position of) distinction is food.

2. He lays down triplets, for the beast is threefold—father, mother, son; and, embryo, amnion, chorion; and food also is threefold—ploughing, rain, seed. One of them is an *Atikhandas*² (excessive metre); for even whilst being one, that one is beyond all the metres. And as to that distinction, it is this great hymn of praise³; and as to this great hymn of praise, it is these *Khandasyâs*.

Gârhapatya on the front, or east, side); 3. *gagatî*, on the *Reta/sik* range (joining the Gârhapatya on the west side); 4. *anush/ubh*, immediately behind (west) of the preceding set; 5. *brîhatî*, immediately in front (east) of the *Ashâd/hâ* range (on which the ring of *Stomabhâgâs* lies); 6. *ushzih*, immediately behind (west of) the *Gâyatrîs*; 7. *kakubh*, immediately in front of the *brîhatî* bricks; 8. *pañkti*, at the right (south) end of the 'cross-spine'; 9. *pada-pañkti*, at the left (north) end of the 'cross-spine'; 10. the single *atikhandas*, immediately in front (east) of the fifth *Asapatnâ* (see p. 84, note 1); 11. (three) *dvipadâ* at the back, or west, end of the 'spine.'

¹ That is, a position of honour, or dignity (*śrī*).

² By the metres, here and in the sequel, we have to understand bricks laid down with verses of the respective metres (*Vâg. S. XV, 20 seq.*).

³ That is, the so-called Great Litany (*mahad uktham*) recited, by the *Hotri*, in response to the *Mahâvrata-sâman*, or Chant of the Great Rite, at the midday service of the last but one day—the so-called *Mahâvrata* day—of the sacrificial session called '*Gavâm ayanam*,' or 'cows' walk.' The Great Litany consists of numerous

3. Gāyatrī verses are the head thereof, Trishṭubh verses the body, Gagatī verses the spine, and Paṅkti verses the wings; and of each of those Kakubh verses he takes four syllables¹, and adds them to

hymns, and some detached verses and prose formulas; the whole matter recited being stated to amount to as many syllables as would make up a thousand Brīhatī verses (of thirty-six syllables each)—or 36,000 syllables in all. From an analysis I have made of the Mahad uktham (or Brīhad uktham, as it is also called) as contained in MS. Ind. Off. 1729 D, I find it very difficult to check the accuracy of this statement; my own calculation yielding somewhere about 37,200 syllables. By leaving out of account the prose formulas, as well as certain repetitions, this gross amount might, however, be reduced to something approximating the stated number of syllables; and, indeed, the calculation was probably not meant to be a strictly accurate one. Cf. II, 3, 3, 19, 20 (where read Litany, instead of Chant), part ii, p. 430. See also IX, 1, 1, 44; 3, 3, 19; 5, 2, 12.

¹ The three Kakubh verses (Vāg. S. XV, 38-40) consist each of three pādas, of eight, twelve, and eight syllables respectively, making together twenty-eight syllables. In muttering these verses, whilst laying down the Kakubh bricks, he is to omit four syllables from the middle pāda of each verse (so as to make it equal to the other two pādas), and mutter the words thus omitted at the beginning of the verse (XV, 47) used in laying down the Atikṛandas brick. The syllables omitted make up complete words in each case, viz. 'bhadra rātiḥ' at the beginning of the middle pāda of the first verse, 'vrātra-tūrye' at the end of the middle pāda of the second verse, and 'ava sthira' at the beginning of the second pāda of the third verse. The remaining portions of the Kakubh verses consist each of twenty-four syllables, or a Gāyatrī verse. The references here made to the different parts of the Mahad uktham are not quite clear, and seem to point to a somewhat different arrangement of that sastra from that known from the Aitareyāranyaka and the Śāṅkhāyana-sūtra. The head, indeed, consists of Gāyatrī verses, viz. *Rig-veda* I, 7, either the whole, or, according to some, only certain verses of it; the first three, or nine, verses also forming the opening triplet, or triplets, of the Mahāvratā-sāman, the chanting of which precedes the recitation of the Great Litany.—For the trunk (ātman) consisting of trishṭubh verses, see p. 113, note 1. The Paṅkti verses, on the other hand, said to form the wings, would seem to be *Rig-veda* VIII, 40 (consisting of mahāpaṅktis),

the *Atikhandas*: that is just (what makes) that *Atikhandas* (excessive metre). The others result in *Gâyatrîs*: this is just that fourscore of *Gâyatrîs*¹, the *Brîhatîs* (make up) the *Bârhatâ* one, and the *Ushnihs* the *Aushniha* one. And as to the *Vasa* hymn², the two half-verses, the *Aindrâgna* (hymn), and the insertion, they are *Atikhandas*; and as to

which in the *Aitareya* arrangement forms the thighs, whilst *Sâṅkhâ-yana* makes it part of the tail; and the *Gagatîs* here referred to as constituting the spine would seem to be X, 50, which immediately follows the hymn just referred to, and is not otherwise identified with any special part of the body. The MSS. of *Harisvâmin's* commentary are unfortunately hopelessly corrupt in this place.

¹ The Great Litany begins with seven sets of hymns and verses, meant symbolically to represent certain parts of *Agni-Pragâpati's* bird-shaped body which the ceremony is intended to reconstruct, viz. the trunk, neck, head, the roots (sinews) of the wings, the right and left wings, and the tail, between each two of which the so-called *Sûdadôhas* verse (*Rîg-veda* VIII, 69, 3), meant to represent the vital air pervading the body, is inserted, as it also is between (and before) the succeeding parts. In the first place there follow three eighties of triplets (or, 3 sets of 240 verses each) in the *Gâyatrî*, *Brîhatî* and *Ushnih* metres respectively. Then comes the *Vasa* hymn representing the belly, and finally a course of recitations (beginning with hymn VIII, 40) forming the thighs. For the part which the number eighty plays in the *Agnikâyana* ceremony, see Weber, *Ind. Stud.* XIII, p. 167. The term for 'eighty,' viz. 'asîti,' gives rise to a constant etymological play. *Sâyana*, on *Aitareyâraṇyaka* I, 4, 3, 1, takes it in the sense of 'food' (cf. above, VIII, 5, 2, 17); whilst the *Âraṇyaka* itself takes it in that of 'obtainment':—*yad evâsmin loke yaso, yan maho, yan mithunam, yad annâdyaṁ, yâ 'pakîtis tad asnavai, tad âpnavâni, tad avaruzadhâi, tan me 'sad iti.*

² This is the hymn *Rîg-veda* VIII, 46, ascribed to *Vasa Asvya*, and remarkable for the variety of metres in which the different verses are composed. In the *Aitareya* recension of the *Mahad uktham* (which is followed in the MS. of this *sastra* referred to in the preceding notes) only the first twenty verses are recited, but verse 15 being divided into two verses, a *dvipadâ* and an *ekapadâ*, they are thus made to consist of twenty-one verses.

the Nada-verse¹, the Sûdadohas, the pâda-appendages, and whatever Anushṭubh matter there is, they make up the Anushṭubhs.

4. Dvīpadâ verses are the feet. Thus much is the great hymn of praise, and the great hymn of praise means distinction: the gods bestowed upon him (Agni) all that distinction, and so does this (Sacrificer) bestow upon him all that distinction:

5. And, again, as to why he lays down the *Khandasyâs*. The gods at that time saw that firmament, the world of heaven, to wit, those Stomabhâgâs, and entered it. Of those entering, Pragâpati entered

¹ The Nada-verse, *Rig-veda* VIII, 69, 2 (in the *ushnih* metre) deriving its name from its first word 'nadam,' plays a peculiar part in the recitation of the Great Litany. The opening set of recitations, representing the trunk, consists of twenty-two *trishṭubh* verses; these are recited in such a way that after each *pâda* (or quarter of a verse) one of the four *pâdas* of the Nada-verse is inserted. The chief object of this insertion seems to be a metrical one, viz. that of making each two *pâdas* (*trishṭubh* = eleven, and *ushnih* = seven syllables) to form half a *br̥hatī* verse (eighteen syllables), the whole Litany being computed by *br̥hatī* verses. Moreover, of v. 3 of the first *Trishṭubh* hymn of this set (*Rig-veda* X, 120) only the first two *pâdas* are recited at this stage (whilst the remaining two are recited in different places later on), and this half-verse is followed by a *br̥hatī* and a *satobṛhatī* *pâda* (VII, 32, 23 c, and VI, 46, 2 c), after which the recitation proceeds with verse 4 of the first hymn. This seems to account for one of the two half-verses here referred to, whilst the other would seem to be VII, 20, 1 a, b, recited later on in the *sastra*. Cf. Prof. F. Max Müller's translation of *Aitareyâr.*, *Sacred Books of the East*, vol. i, p. 181 seqq.—The *Aindrâgna* hymn is VIII, 40, 1-9; 11; 12, being the first hymn of the portion representing the thighs. It consists of ten *mahâpankti* verses (6×8 syllables)—each of which is split up into two *Gâyatrī* verses (3×8 syllables)—and one *trishṭubh* verse.—The chief *anushṭubh* verses are those of *Rig-veda* I, 11, 1-8, which are recited in a peculiar way (towards the end of the *sastra*), the last *pâda* of each verse interchanging with the first *pâda* of the next verse.

last; and thus Pragâpati is the same as these *Khandasyās*.

6. *Gâyatrīs* are his head; and as to its being *Gâyatrīs*, it is because the head is of *Gâyatrī* nature¹. There are three, for the head is threefold. He places them on the forepart (of the altar), for the head (of the animal or bird) is in front.

7. *Trishṭubhs* are the chest: he places them on the range of the two *Retaṣik*; for the *Retaṣik* are the ribs, and the ribs lie against the chest.

8. *Gagatīs* are the hips; at whatever distance from the naturally-perforated (central) brick he places the *Trishṭubhs* in front, at the same distance from it he places the *Gagatīs* behind; for that naturally-perforated brick is this vital air in the middle (of the body), and as far from that vital air as the chest is in front, so far are the hips behind.

9. *Anushṭubhs* are the thighs: he places them close to the *Gagatīs*, and thereby places the thighs close to the hips.

10. *Brīhatīs* are the ribs, *Kakubhs* the breast-bone. The *Brīhatīs* he places between the *Trishṭubhs* and *Kakubhs*, whence these ribs are fastened on both sides, on the breast-bone and the costal cartilages².

11. *Ushṇihś* are the neck: he places them close to the *Gâyatrīs*, and thereby places the neck close to the head.

12. *Pañktīs* are the wings: and as to their being

¹ Either because the *Gâyatrī* is the foremost and noblest of metres (whence its symbolical connection with the priestly office and caste), and the one used for the first stoma at the Soma-sacrifice; or on account of its being best adapted for singing. For the threefold nature of the head, as consisting of skin, bone, and brain, see XII, 2, 4, 9.

² That is, on both sides of the chest; see XII, 2, 4, 11, with note.

Pañktis, it is because the wings are of Pañkti (five-fold) nature. He places them sideways, for these wings are sideways. Whatever metre is larger that he places on the right side: he thus makes the right half of the animal the stronger, and hence the right side of an animal is the stronger.

13. An Atikḥandas is the belly; for the metres are cattle, and cattle are food, and food is (what fills) the belly, because it is the belly that eats the food: hence when the belly gets the food, it becomes eaten and used up. And inasmuch as this (brick) eats (atti) the metres (ḥandas), the cattle, it is called Attikḥandas, for Attikḥandas is really what is mystically called Atikḥandas; for the gods love the mystic.

14. A (brick) covered with loose soil is the womb. These two he lays close to each other, for the belly and the womb are close to each other. They are connected with loose soil, for loose soil means flesh, and both the belly and the womb are connected with flesh. The former is an Atikḥandas, the latter a soil-bedded one (purīshavati), for the belly is higher, and the womb lower.

15. He places them so as to extend eastwards, for in an easterly direction¹ this Agni (fire-altar) is built; and, moreover, in one moving forward, both the belly and the womb are moving forward. Outside the Stomabhâgâs (he places them), for the Stomabhâgâs are the heart, and the heart is highest, then (comes) the belly, then the womb.

16. He places them south of the naturally-perforated (brick). Now, in the first layer, he places

¹. Or, as one tending (flying) eastwards.

both the belly and the womb north of the naturally-perforated one¹; for that naturally-perforated one, indeed, is what this vital air in the middle (of the body) is: he thus places the belly and the womb on both sides of that (central) vital air, and hence the belly and the womb are on both sides of that central vital air.

17. The Dvipadâs are the feet (the stand);—and as to its being Dvipadâs (verses of two feet), it is because the feet are a pair. There are three (such verses), for a stand² (tripod) is threefold. He lays them down at the back, for the feet are at the back (of the body).

18. That body of his (Agni) is well-made;—and, indeed, for whomsoever they thus make that body of his so as to be well-made, he becomes possessed of that body of his as a well-made one; but for whomsoever they make it otherwise than that, for him they make that body of his so as to be ill-made, and he becomes possessed of an ill-made body.

19. It is with reference to this that these two sâma-nidhanas (finales of sâman-hymns) are uttered,—‘The light (is) in the highest heaven of the gods,’ and, ‘The gods (are) in the highest heaven of the

¹ According to VII, 5, 1, 38, the fire-pan is supposed to represent the belly, and the mortar the yoni; and these two were, in the first layer, placed north of the svayam-âtrinnâ, or naturally-perforated brick, so as to leave the space of a full brick between them and that central brick of the layer; cf. VII, 5, 1, 13. In the sketch of the central part of the first layer (p. 17), the two northernmost bricks, marked *p*, represent the fire-pan and mortar.

² That is, the feet and back part of the body, or the tail, the latter, in a sitting bird, forming, as it were, a third foot or support to the body.

light;—for when on that occasion the gods were entering (heaven),¹ Pragâpati was the last to enter: that is why he says, 'The light (is) in the highest heaven of the gods.' And as to why he says, 'The gods (are) in the highest heaven of light,'—the light, doubtless, is this Agni (the fire-altar), and it is on his highest layer that all the gods have thus entered: this is why he says, 'The gods are in the highest heaven of light.'

THIRD BRÂHMANA.

1. He lays down the Gârhapatya. For the gods, having obtained this much, thought they had succeeded. They spake, 'Whereby have we succeeded in this?'—'By means of the Gârhapatya,' they said; 'for, after building the Gârhapatya¹ and mounting thereon, we saw the first layer, from the first (we saw) the second, from the second the third, from the third the fourth, from the fourth the fifth, and from the fifth this one.'

2. They spake, 'Think ye upon this, how there may be success here for us!' They spake, 'Meditate ye (kṛit)!' whereby, indeed, they meant to say, 'Seek ye a layer (kṛiti)! seek ye whereby there may be success here for us!'

3. Whilst meditating, they said this: 'Let us bring this one here and put it on (the fire-altar)!' Having brought this (Gârhapatya) here, they put it

¹ For the building of the separate Gârhapatya hearth, on which the sacred fire was transferred from the Ukhâ (fire-pan), see part iii, p. 298 seq.; its sketch, p. 302. A similar hearth is now built on the fifth layer of the Âhavaniya fire-altar.

on. They disputed about it:—in the front part (of the fifth layer) the Vasus, on the right side the Rudras, on the hind part the Âdityas, on the left side the Maruts, and above it the Visve Devâs said, 'Here let us lay it down! here let us lay it down!'

4. They spake, 'Let us lay it down in the middle: when laid down in our midst, it will belong to all of us.' They laid it down in the middle (of the fifth layer), and thus they laid that success into the self (or the body of the altar);—in the middle (they laid it): they thus laid that success into the very middle of (Agni's and their own) self. And in like manner does the Sacrificer, when he lays down the Gârhapatya, lay that success into (his own) self; and (by laying it down) in the middle, he lays that success into the very middle of the self.

5. And, again, as to why he lays down the Gârhapatya. The Gârhapatya, doubtless, is food, and this built Agni is an eater: it is to the eater he thus offers that food;—in the centre (he lays down the Gârhapatya): in the very middle (of the body) he thus lays food into him.

6. And, again, as to why he lays down the Gârhapatya. The world of the gods, doubtless, is the Vêdi (altar-ground); but that (original Gârhapatya) is built up outside the Vêdi: thus, when he brings it here and lays it down (on the fire-altar), he then establishes it (or him, Agni) on the Vêdi, in the world of the gods.

7. And, again, as to why he lays down the Gârhapatya. The lotus-leaf¹, doubtless, is a womb, but

¹ For the lotus-leaf, which is the first thing laid down in the centre

that (Gârhapatya) is built up outside the womb, and outside of the womb indeed takes place that performance regarding the fire-altar which takes place prior to the (laying down of the) lotus-leaf: thus, when they bring it (the Gârhapatya) here and lay it down, he then establishes it in the womb, on the lotus-leaf; and thus indeed it is not outside. Eight bricks he lays down: the significance of this has been explained¹. He builds it up with the same formulas and in the same order, for this one is the same as that (former Gârhapatya Agni): he thus brings it (or him) here and lays it down.

8. He then lays down the Punas̥ṭiti². Now at that time the gods, having built the Gârhapatya, did not find success therein; for the Gârhapatya pile is a womb, and success in a womb consists in seed, in generative power; and in this womb they saw no seed, no generative power.

9. They spake, 'Think ye upon this, how we may lay seed and generative power into this womb!' They spake, 'Meditate ye!' whereby, indeed, they meant to say, 'Seek ye a layer! seek ye that we may lay seed and generative power into this womb!'

10. Whilst meditating, they saw this Punas̥ṭiti, and put it on (the Gârhapatya), and thereby laid seed and generative power into this womb;—in the centre (they placed it): they thus laid seed and

of the altar-site on which the (Āhavanīya) altar is to be raised, see VII, 4, 1, 7 seqq. The Gârhapatya had been built previous to that (VII, 1, 1, 1 seqq.).

¹ See VII, 1, 1, 19 seqq.

² The Punas̥ṭiti (re-piling) is a second pile or layer of eight bricks corresponding exactly to the first, and placed thereon.

generative power into the very middle of this womb. And in like manner does the Sacrificer now, when he lays down the *Punaskiti*, lay seed and generative power into this womb;—in the centre (he lays it down): he thus lays seed and generative power into the very middle of this womb.

11. Now some lay it down on the hind part (of the bird-like altar), because it is from the hind part that seed is introduced,—(to wit) on the juncture of the tail (and the body), for it is from (the part near) the tail that seed is introduced. Let him not do this, for they who do this lay seed and generative power outside the womb; but let him rather place it in the centre: he thus lays seed and generative power right into the womb.

12. He lays down eight bricks,—the *Gâyatri* (metre) consists of eight syllables, and *Agni* (the fire-altar) is of *Gâyatri* nature: as great as *Agni* is, as great as is his measure, so great he thus introduces him in the form of seed. Five times he 'settles' it,—of five layers consists the fire-altar, five seasons make a year, and *Agni* is the year: as great as *Agni* is, as great as is his measure, by so much he thus introduces him in the form of seed. Eight bricks he 'settles' five times, that makes thirteen,—thirteen months make a year, and there are thirteen 'layer-fillings' of the altar: as great as *Agni* is, as great as is his measure, so great he thus becomes.

13. And as to why he lays down the *Punaskiti*. Now, in laying down the *Gârhapatya* (hearth) upon the *Âhavanîya*, he surely does what is improper; but when he lays down the *Punaskiti* he thereby brings this *Agni* (or altar) that has been built, and builds it up again thereon; and because he again

(punas) builds up (ñi) that (Agni) already built, therefore (this is called) Punasñiti.

14. Now some lay down the Gârhapatya on the hind part, and the Punasñiti on the front part (of the built altar), for these two are the Âhavaniya and the Gârhapatya, and these two fires are (placed) in this way¹. Let him not do this, for the Gârhapatya is this (terrestrial) world, and the Âhavaniya is the sky; and above this (earth) surely is yonder (sky); let him therefore place it (the Punasñiti) on the top of that (Gârhapatya).

15. And as to why he lays down both the Gârhapatya and the Punasñiti. These two, doubtless, are the Vedi and the Uttaravedi (high-altar) of Agni. Now those two former (altars of this kind) which he throws up² belong to the Soma-sacrifice, but these belong to the fire-altar; and when, after laying down these two, he deposits Agni (the fire) thereon, then he establishes him both on the Vedi and the Uttaravedi.

16. And, again, as to why he lays down the Punasñiti. This, doubtless, is a repeated sacrifice (punaryagña), and higher (than the ordinary sacrifice) is this worship of the gods: he thus sets up a repeated sacrifice, and the higher worship of the gods; and the repeated sacrifice inclines (accrues) to him.

17. And, again, as to why he lays down the

¹ In the ordinary sacrifices the Gârhapatya hearth is placed behind (west of), and the Âhavaniya on the front (or east) end of, the Vedi.

² That is, at the performance of an ordinary Soma-sacrifice. For the vedi and uttaravedi on that occasion, see III, 5, 1, 1 seq.; 12 seqq. (part ii, p. 111 seqq.)

Punaskṛiti. This (altar), doubtless, is that same Agni whom in the beginning the vital airs, the *Rīshis*, made up¹. He now builds him up again; and inasmuch as he again (punas) builds up (kṛi) that (Agni) already built, therefore also it is (called) Punaskṛiti.

18. [He lays down the first brick, with, *Vāg. S. XV, 49*], 'With what fervour the *Rīshis* entered upon the sacrificial session,'—he thereby means those *Rīshis* (the vital airs);—'kindling the fire and gaining the light,'—that is, 'kindling the fire, and gaining the heavenly world;'—'upon that firmament I place the Fire,'—the firmament, doubtless, is the heavenly world;—'whom thinkers call the straw-spreader,'—the thinkers (or men) are they who are wise; and 'straw-spreader' he says, because he (Agni) has ever the (sacrificial) straw spread for him.

19. [The second brick, with, *Vāg. S. XV, 50*], 'With our wives let us follow him, O gods! with our sons and brothers, or our golden treasures;'—that is, 'let us follow him with our all;'—'gaining the firmament in the world of righteousness;'—the firmament, doubtless, is the heavenly world: thus, 'gaining the heavenly world in the world of righteousness;'—'above the third luminous back of the sky,'—for this, indeed, is the third luminous back of the sky where this (Agni) now burns².

¹ See part iii, p. 143.

² That is, on this altar where the fire will soon be burning. It seems also to refer to the sun burning over the third heaven—as the counterpart of the Agni of the fire-altar.

20. [The third brick, with, Vāg. S. XV, 51], 'Unto the centre of speech did he mount, the nimble,'—for this, indeed, is the centre of speech where he now is built up; and 'the nimble (bhurazyu),' that is, 'the sustainer¹ (bhartar);'—'this Agni, the good lord, the heedful,'—that is, 'this Agni, the lord of the good, the heeding one;'—'established upon the back of the earth, he the brilliant,'—that is, 'established on the back of the earth, the shining one;'—'let him tread under foot any hostile!'—that is, 'let him tread under foot all evildoers.'

21. [The fourth brick, with, Vāg. S. XV, 52], 'This Agni, the most mettlesome bestower of strength,'—that is, 'the most vigorous bestower of strength;'—'may he glow a thousandfold, unremitting,'—that is, 'may he shine a thousandfold, not unheedful;'—'blazing in the middle of the sea,'—the sea, doubtless, means these worlds: thus, 'shining in these worlds;'—'go forth to the divine abodes!'—that is, 'go forth to the heavenly world!'

22. [The fifth brick, with, Vāg. S. XV, 53], 'Gather ye together! draw ye nigh together!'—he thereby says to those Rishis, 'Gather ye him together! draw ye nigh to him together!'—'Make ye Agni's² paths to lead to the gods!'—as the text so the meaning;—'making the parents

¹ That is, the sustainer of the world (gagad-bhartar), according to Mahīdhara; an etymological play on the word 'bhurazyu.'

² The texts have 'agne,' O Agni! the verbal form 'krinudhvam' being explained by Mahīdhara as an irregular singular form for 'krinu,' (make thou). The verse seems, however, corrupt.

young again,'—the young parents, doubtless, are speech and mind, and these two fires also are speech and mind;—'in thee hath he spun out this thread,'—he thereby means that thread (of the sacrifice) which has been spun out by the *Rishis*.

23. [The sixth brick, with, *Vâg. S. XV, 54*], 'Awake, O Agni, and be watchful!'—he thereby says to this Agni, 'Wake thou over this one¹, and watch thou over him!'—'Wish and fulfilment, meet ye and he together²!'—as the text, so the meaning;—'Upon this, the higher seat,'—the higher seat, doubtless, is the sky;—'sit ye down, O All-gods, and the Sacrificer!'—he thereby makes the Sacrificer sit down together with the *Virve Devâs*.

24. [The seventh brick, with, *Vâg. S. XV, 55*], 'Whereby thou carriest a thousand, whereby, O Agni, all wealth,'—for that, indeed, is his most acceptable power whereby he carries a thousand, and all wealth;—'thereby lead thou this sacrifice of ours unto the light to go to the gods!'—that is, 'thereby lead thou this our sacrifice to the heavenly world to go to the gods.'—[The eighth brick, with, *Vâg. S. XV, 56*], 'This is thy natural womb . . .';—the meaning of this has been ex-

¹ The author (not Mahîdhara) seems rather to take 'udbudhyasva' in a transitive sense ('wake thou him'), as Mahîdhara certainly does the second imperative 'pratigâgrîhi', 'make him (the Sacrificer) careful!'

² The text has the 2nd person dual, which Mahîdhara explains by the 3rd dual (*yagamânena saha samsrîshîte bhavatâm*—'May the two become united with the Sacrificer'), because of the nominative 'ishâpûrve,' instead of the vocative.

plained¹. Eight bricks he lays down : the meaning of this also has been explained².

SEVENTH ADHYĀYA. FIRST BRÂHMANA.

1. He lays down two *Ritavyâ* (seasonal bricks). The seasonal (bricks) are the same as these seasons : it is the seasons he thereby lays down. And, indeed, the seasonal ones are everything here, for the seasonal ones are the year, and the year is everything here : he thus lays down everything here. And generative power they also are,—for the seasonal ones are the year, and the year means generative power : it is generative power he thus lays down (or bestows on Agni and the Sacrificer).

2. And, again, as to why he lays down seasonal (bricks),—the seasonal (ones) are the nobility and these other bricks are the peasantry : he thus places the nobility as the eater among the peasantry. He lays down (some of) them in all the layers : he thus places the nobility as the eater among the whole people³.

3. And, again, as to why he lays down seasonal (bricks),—this fire-altar is the year, and it is joined together by means of the seasonal (bricks) : he thus makes the year continuous, and joins it together, by means of the seasons. These (formulas of the seasonal bricks) begin in a different way, but end in the same way ; for the seasons were created, and, when created, they were different.

4. They spake, ' While being thus, we shall not be

¹ Viz. VII, 1, 1, 28.

² Viz. VII, 1, 1, 32.

³ Or, he places the chieftaincy in every clan.

able to procreate : let us unite with our forms !' They united in each single season with their forms, whence there is in each single season the form of all the seasons. As to their (formulas) beginning in a different way, it is because they were created different (or separately) ; and as to their ending in the same way, it is because they united with their forms.

5. He lays them down, with (Vâg. S. XV, 57), 'Tapa and Tapasya, the two dewy seasons,'—these are the names of these two : it is thus by their names that he lays them down. Tapa (the burner), doubtless, is yonder sun : from him these two seasons are not separated ; and inasmuch as these two seasons are not separated from him, they are called Tapa and Tapasya.

6. 'Agni's coupling-link thou art,'—this fire-altar is the year, and it is joined together by means of the seasonal (bricks) : he thus makes the year continuous, and joins it together by means of the seasons ;—'May Heaven and earth fit into one another ! may the waters and plants fit into each other !'—he thereby makes everything here¹ to fit in by means of the seasons :—'May the fires fit into one another, each singly, working harmoniously together for my supremacy !'—for these single bricks are the same as those fires : he thus says this so that they may fit in with each other for the supremacy of those two seasons ;—'whatever fires there are, at one with each other, within these two, Heaven and Earth ;'—as the text is, so is its meaning ;—'let them draw

¹ Or, all this universe.

together, fitting in with the two dewy seasons, even as the gods draw together unto Indra;—that is, 'even as the gods are drawing together round Indra, so may they draw together for supremacy round these two seasons.' Two bricks there are, because the season consists of two months. Only once he 'settles' them: he thereby makes the season to be one.

7. And as to why he now lays down these two;—this fire-altar is the year, and the year is these worlds: the fifth layer of this (altar) is the sky, and the dewy season of this (year) is the sky; and when he now lays down these two (bricks), he thereby restores to his (Agni's) body what these two are thereto: this is why he now lays down these two (bricks).

8. And, again, as to why he now lays down these two;—this Agni (the fire-altar) is Pragâpati (the lord of generation), and Pragâpati is the year: the fifth layer is his (Agni's) head, and the dewy season is its (the year's) head; and when he now lays down these two (bricks), he thereby restores to his (or its) body what these two are thereto: this is why he now lays down these two (bricks).

9. He lays down the two seasonal ones prior to the naturally-perforated one and to the Visvagyotis; for the last naturally-perforated one is the sky¹, and the last Visvagyotis² (all-light brick) is

¹ For the symbolic meaning of the three *svayam-âtrinnâs*, as the central bricks of the first and third layers, and the one lying on the centre of the fifth layer, see part iii, p. 155, note 8.

² On the three Visvagyotis bricks, placed in the same layers, as representing the gods Agni, Vâyu and Âditya respectively, see VI, 3, 3, 16; 5, 3, 3.

the sun: he thus places the seasons on this side of the sky and the sun; whence the seasons are on this side thereof. But generative power there also is (in these seasonal bricks)¹: he thus places generative power on this side of the sky and the sun; whence procreation takes place only on this side of them, but stationary, indeed, is procreation beyond them, for just as many gods as there were of old, so many there are now.

10. Now, the (first) two seasonal (bricks) he lays down subsequently to the first naturally-perforated one, and to the first *Visvagyotis*; for the first naturally-perforated one is this (earth), and the first *Visvagyotis* is *Agni*: thereupon he places the seasons, whence the seasons are upwards from this (earth). But generative power there also is therein: he thus places generative power above this (earth); whence procreation only takes place above (upon, not under) this (earth).

11. Let him not derange these (seasonal bricks)² lest he should derange the seasons, for deranged are

¹ Or, But these (bricks) also are (or mean) generative power, cf. paragraph 1.

² That is, he is not to shift them from their proper place, but place each subsequent pair exactly on those laid down before. As a matter of fact, however, these two bricks (if we determine their site by mere calculation) would seem, in the fifth layer, to lie by half a foot further away from the central point, than the *Ritavyâs* of the other layers do. This is owing to the fact that whilst, in the layers in which a *Svayamâtrinnâ* lies in the middle, only one half of these central bricks lie on the east side of the central point, in the present layer the eastern portion of the *Gârhapatya* (occupying the central part of the layer) consists of full-sized bricks. This discrepancy of half a foot was probably made good by some space being left, which was afterwards filled up with earth; unless, indeed, the *Svayamâtrinnâs*, as apparently natural stones, were allowed to somewhat exceed the ordinary size of bricks.

the seasons for him who dies: hence, in whatever place he lays down the first two, there let him lay down all.

12. But the seasonal (bricks), indeed, are also these (three) worlds: by the (different) layers he thus builds up these worlds one above the other. And the seasonal (bricks), indeed, are also the nobility: by the (different) layers he thus builds up the nobility above (the peasantry). And the seasonal ones, indeed, are also the year: by the (different) layers he thus builds up the year. Let him not thereafter place over them any other brick with a sacrificial formula, lest he should place the peasantry above the nobility.

13. Now these same (bricks) are indeed stepping-stones, for by means of the seasonal (bricks) the gods then stepped over these worlds, both from hence upwards and from above downwards: and in like manner does the Sacrificer now, by means of the seasonal (bricks), step over these worlds, both from hence upwards and from above downwards.

14. Now, the *Karakādhvaryus* lay down here yet other 'stepping-stones'; but let him not do so, for they do what is redundant, and these are indeed (all) the stepping-stones.

15. He then lays down a *Visvagyotis* (all-light brick);—the last *Visvagyous*, doubtless, is the sun, for in yonder (celestial) world the sun, indeed, is 'all the light': it is the sun he thereby sets up.

16. And, again, as to why he lays down a *Visvagyotis*:—the *Visvagyotis*, doubtless, means progeny, for progeny indeed is all the light:—he thus lays generative power into it (or into him, Agni and the Sacrificer).

17. He lays down the Visvagyotis prior to the naturally-perforated one;—for the last naturally-perforated one is the sky, and the last Visvagyotis is the sun: he thus places the sun on this side (below) the sky, whence he burns only on this side thereof. But there also is generative power therein: he thus places generative power on this side of the sky, whence procreation takes place only on this side thereof.

18. Now the (first) Visvagyotis he lays down subsequent to the first naturally-perforated one; for the first naturally-perforated one is this (earth), and the first Visvagyotis is Agni: he thus sets up Agni upwards from this (earth), whence the fire blazes upwards from here. But there also is generative power therein: he thus places generative power above this (earth), whence procreation only takes place above this (earth).

19. And the (second) Visvagyotis he lays down subsequent to the second naturally-perforated one (in the third, or central) layer; for the second naturally-perforated one is the air, and the second Visvagyotis is Vāyu (the wind): he thus places the wind in the air, whence that wind (has his abode) in the air.

20. These (three) then are the lights;—and when he lays down these (three Visvagyotis bricks) in this way, he thereby sets up those same lights so as to face each other; and hence the fire blazes upwards from this (earth), and yonder sun shines downwards, and that wind blows sideways in the air.

21. [He 'settles' the Visvagyotis, with, Vâg. S. XV, 58], 'May Parameshṭin settle thee'—for Parameshṭin saw this fifth layer;—'on the back

of the sky, thee, the luminous one!—for on the back of the sky is yonder luminous sun.

22. 'For all out-breathing, and off-breathing, and through-breathing,'—for the Visvagyotis is the breath, and breath, indeed, is (necessary) for everything here;—'bestow thou all the light!—that is, 'bestow thou the whole (or every) light'—'Sūrya is thine overlord,'—he thereby makes Sūrya (the sun) its overlord. Having 'settled' it, he pronounces the Sūdadohas on it: its (symbolical) meaning has been told¹.

23. Now, these (bricks) are indeed stepping-stones, for by means of the Visvagyotis (bricks) the gods then stepped over these worlds, both from hence upwards, and from above downwards: and in like manner does the Sacrificer now, by means of the Visvagyotis, step over these worlds, both from hence upwards, and from above downwards.

24. Now, the Karakādhvaryus lay down here yet other 'stepping-stones'; but let him not do so, for they do what is redundant, and these are indeed the stepping-stones.

SECOND BRĀHMANA.

1. He then lays down a Lokamprīṇā² (space-filling brick); the Lokamprīṇā, doubtless, is yonder

¹ For this verse see part iii, p. 307, note 2; for its symbolic meaning (as the breath, or vital air) VII, 1, 1, 15; 26. See also VIII, 7, 3, 21, where the verse itself is explained.

² In laying down the Lokamprīṇās of the fifth layer, he begins, as in the first layer, from the right shoulder, or the south-east corner, of the altar, but so that in this case the first 'space-filler' is laid down, not at the corner, but a cubit to the west of it. Starting from that spot, he fills up the available spaces, in two turns, moving in the sunwise fashion.

sun, for he fills these worlds: it is thus yonder sun he thereby sets up. He lays down this (Lokamprîâ) in all the (five) layers, for those layers are these (three) worlds¹: he thus places the sun in (all) these worlds, whence he shines for all these worlds.

2. And, again, as to why he lays down a Lokamprîâ,—the Lokamprîâ, doubtless, is the nobility (or chieftaincy)², and these other bricks are the peasants (or clansmen): he thus places the nobility (or chieftain), as the eater, among the peasantry. He lays it down in all the layers: he thus places the nobility, as the eater, among the whole peasantry (or in every clan).

3. Now this is only a single (brick): he thus makes the nobility (or the chieftaincy) and (social) distinction to attach to a single (person). And what second (such brick there is) that is its mate, —a mate, doubtless, is one half of one's own self, for when one is with a mate then he is whole and complete: (thus it is laid down) for the sake of completeness. With a single formula he lays down many bricks³: he thereby endows the nobility pre-

¹ Rather, the first, second, and third layers are the three worlds.

² At VI, 1, 2, 25 Tândya was made to maintain that the Yagushmatîs, or bricks laid down with special formulas, were the nobility, and that the Lokamprîâs, laid down with one and the same formula, were the peasants, and as the noble (or chieftain) required a numerous clan for his subsistence, there should be fewer of the former kind of bricks, than the established practice was. This view was however rejected by the author of the Brâhmana, and here, in opposition to that view, the Lokamprîâ is identified with the nobility, and the Yagushmatîs with the clan.

³ The common formula used with these bricks, and from which they derive their name—beginning as it does 'Lokam prîâ,' 'Fill the space!' see parag. 6—is pronounced once only after every ten such bricks, and after any odd ones at the end.

eminently with power¹, and makes the nobility more powerful than the peasantry. And the other (bricks) he lays down singly, with separate formulas: he thereby makes the peasantry less powerful than the nobility, differing in speech, and of different thoughts (from one another).

4. The first two (*Lokamprīnās*) he lays down in that (south-east) corner: he thereby places yonder sun in that quarter: from this (earth) he follows him (the sun) from that (place) there²; from this (earth) he follows him from that (place) there; from this (earth) he follows him from that (place) there; from this (earth) he follows him from that (place) there.

5. And in whatever place he lays down the first two (bricks), let him there lay down alongside of

¹ In the translation of VII, 5, 2, 14 (part iii, p. 404), the passage 'having taken possession of the man by strength,' which was based on a wrong reading (see Weber, Berl. Cat. II, p. 69), should read thus: 'having pre-eminently endowed man with power' (or, perhaps, 'having placed him above (others) in respect of power,' St. Petersburg Dict.)

² I do not know whether 'atas' might be taken here in the sense of 'thither,' or whether it goes along with 'tasmāt,' merely strengthening it. The meaning in either case would seem to be this. In the first turn of filling up the empty spaces he first moves along from the south-east corner (the point where the sun rises) to the back or west end of the spine (the place where the sun sets) and the central brick; and having thus, as it were, touched the earth again, he proceeds from there in the same sunwise fashion, filling up the north part of the altar until he reaches the east end of the spine, and there, as it were, touches the earth once more. In the second turn he again begins (with the second brick) in the south-east, and repeats the same process, in filling up the south part of the altar, and completing at the south-east corner. The laying down of the *Lokamprīnās* would thus be supposed to occupy the full space of two days and two nights.

them the last two (bricks): for (otherwise) having once revolved round these worlds, that sun would not pass by them. Let him lay down the two last alongside the two first by reaching over them: he thus causes that sun to pass by these worlds; and hence that sun revolves incessantly round these worlds again and again (from left) to right.

6. [He lays them down, with, Vâg. S. XV, 59], 'Fill the space! fill the gap!'—that is, 'fill up the space! fill up the gap;'—'and lie thou steady!'—that is, 'and lie thou firm, settled!'—'Indra and Agni, and *Bṛihaspati*, have settled thee in this womb;' that is, 'Indra and Agni, and *Bṛihaspati*, have established thee in this womb.' Thus (he establishes them) by an *anushṭubh* verse; for the *Anushṭubh* is speech, and Indra is speech, and the 'space-filler' is Indra. He does not settle them, for that (sun) is unsettled. He pronounces the *Sûdadohas* on them, for the *Sûdadohas* is vital air: he thus makes him (Agni) continuous and joins him together by means of the vital air.

7. Here now they say, 'How does that *Lokamprinâ* become of unimpaired strength?' Well, the *Lokamprinâ* is yonder sun, and he assuredly is of unimpaired strength. And the *Lokamprinâ* also is speech, and of unimpaired strength assuredly is speech.

8. Having laid down those (bricks) possessed of (special) sacrificial formulas, he covers (the altar) with the *Lokamprinâ*; for the bricks possessed of formulas mean food, and the *Lokamprinâ* means the body: he thus encloses the food in the body, whence food enclosed in the body is the body itself.

9. Those (bricks) possessed of formulas he places on the body (of the altar) itself, not on the wings and tail: he thus puts food into the body; and whatever food is put into the body that benefits both the body and the wings and tail; but that which he puts on the wings and tail benefits neither the body, nor the wings and tail.

10. On the body (of the altar) he places both (bricks) possessed of formulas and Lokamprînās; whence that body (of a bird) is, as it were, twice as thick. On the wings and tail (he places) only Lokamprînās, whence the wings and tail are, as it were, thinner. On the body (of the altar) he places them both lengthwise and crosswise, for the bricks are bones: hence these bones in the body run both lengthwise and crosswise. On the wings and tail (he places them so as to be) turned away (from the body), for in the wings and tail there is not a single transverse bone. And this, indeed, is the difference between a built and an unbuilt (altar): suchlike is the built one, different therefrom the unbuilt one¹.

11. The Svayamâtrinnâ (naturally-perforated brick) he encloses with Lokamprînâ (bricks); for the naturally-perforated one is the breath, and the 'space-filler' is the sun: he thus kindles the breath by means of the sun, whence this breath (of ours) is warm. With that (kind of brick) he fills up the whole body: he thereby kindles the whole body by means of the sun, whence this whole body (of ours) is warm. And this, indeed, is the difference between one that will live and one that will die:

¹ That is, one not properly built.

he that will live is warm, and he that will die is cold.

12. From the corner in which he lays down the first two (*Lokamprinâs*) he goes on filling up (the altar) by tens up to the *Svayamâtrinnâ*. In the same way he goes on filling it up from left to right behind the naturally-perforated one up to (the brick on) the cross-spine¹. He then fills it up whilst returning to that limit².

13. The body (of the altar) he fills up first, for of (a bird) that is produced, the body is produced first, then the right wing, then the tail, then the left (wing): that is in the rightward (sunwise) way, for this is (the way) with the gods, and thus, indeed, yonder sun moves along these worlds from left to right.

14. The *Lokamprinâ*, doubtless, is the same as the vital air; he therewith fills up the whole body (of the altar): he thus puts vital air into the whole body. If he were not to reach any member thereof, then the vital air would not reach that member of him (*Agni*); and whatever member the vital air does not reach, that, assuredly, either dries up or withers away: let him therefore fill up therewith the whole of it.

15. The wings and tail he builds on to the body, for the wings and tail grow on to the body; but were he first to lay down those (bricks) turned away (from the body), it would be as if he were to take a limb from elsewhere and put it on again.

¹ This would seem to be the *Vikarnî* (see VIII, 7, 3, 9 seqq.) which, however, like the central *Svayamâtrinnâ*, is only to be laid down after the layer has been levelled up.

² Viz. to the east end of the 'spine.'

16. Let him not lay down either a broken (brick) or a black one ; for one that is broken causes failure, and sickly is that form which is black : ' Lest I should make up a sickly body,' he thinks ¹. Let him not throw aside an unbroken (brick), lest he should put what is not sickly outside the body. Whatever (bricks), in counting from the *dhishnya* hearths, should exceed a *Virâg* ², and not make up another, such (bricks) indeed cause failure : let him break them and throw them ³ (*ut-kir*) on the heap of rubbish (*utkara*), for the heap of rubbish is the seat of what is redundant : thus he thereby settles them where there is the seat of that which is redundant.

17. Now, then, of the measures of the bricks. In the first and last layers let him lay down (bricks) of a foot (square), for the foot is a support ; and the hand is the same as the foot. The largest (bricks) should be of the measure of the thigh-bone, for there is no bone larger than the thigh-bone. Three layers should have (their bricks) marked with three lines, for threefold are these worlds ; and two (layers

¹ Here, as so often before, the effect to be avoided is expressed by a clause in *oratio directa* with 'ned'; the inserted clause with 'vai' indicating the reason why that effect is to be dreaded. To adapt the passage to our own mode of diction, we should have to translate :—Let him not lay down either a broken brick or a black one, lest he should form a sickly body ; for a brick which is broken comes to grief, and what is black is of sickly appearance.—In the next sentence of the translation, the direct form of speech has been discarded.

² The *pâda* of the *Virâg* consists of ten, and a whole *Virâg* stanza of thirty (or forty), syllables. Hence the number of the bricks is to be divisible by ten.

³ Or, perhaps, dig them in.

may consist) of (bricks) marked with an indefinite number of lines, for these two layers are the flavour, and the flavour is indefinite; but all (the layers) should rather have (bricks) marked with three lines, for threefold are all these worlds.

18. Now, then, of the location¹ of (special) bricks. Any (special) brick he knows, provided with a formula, let him place in the middle (third) layer; for the middle layer is the air, and the air, doubtless, is the location of all beings. Moreover, bricks with (special) formulas are food, and the middle layer is the belly: he thus puts food into the belly.

19. Here, now, they say, 'Let him not lay down (such special bricks) lest he should do what is excessive.' But he may, nevertheless, lay them down; for such bricks are laid down for (the fulfilment of special) wishes, and in wishes there is nothing excessive. But let him rather not lay them down, for just that much the gods then did.

THIRD BRĀHMANA.

1. He now throws loose soil (on the layer); for the loose soil means flesh: he thus covers him (Agni) with flesh. [He does so] after having laid down the bricks;—the bricks are the bone: he thus covers the bone with flesh.

2. He also strews it on (the place where lies) the naturally-perforated (brick), for the naturally-perforated one means vital air, and the loose soil

¹ Āvāpana has also the meaning of 'throwing in, insertion,' which is likewise understood here, whilst further on in this paragraph ('the air is the āvāpanam of all beings') it can scarcely have this meaning (? something injected). Cf. IX, 4, 2, 27.

means food : he thus puts food into (the channels of) the vital air. In that manner¹ he covers the whole body (of the altar) ; whence the food which is put into (the channels of) the vital air benefits the whole body, extends over the whole body.

3. 'Let him not strew it on (the place of) the naturally-perforated one,' say some, 'lest he should stop up (the channels of) the vital airs, for the naturally-perforated one is the vital air.' Let him, nevertheless, strew it, for the vital airs are sustained by food, and whoever eats no food his (channels of the) vital airs grow up (and close): hence he for whom they act thus, comes to exist in yonder world even like a dry, hollow tube. Let him, therefore, by all means strew (loose soil) on (the place of) the naturally-perforated one.

4. Having strewed it on the *svayamâtrinnâ* (place) he goes on covering (the altar) from the (brick) on the cross-spine up to the enclosing-stones. In the same way he goes on covering it from left to right behind the naturally-perforated one up to the one on the cross-spine again.

5. The body (of the altar) he covers first, for of (a bird) that is produced, the body is the first to be produced ; then the right wing, then the tail, then the left wing : that is in the rightward (sunwise) way, for this is (the way) with the gods.

6. Now this loose soil, indeed, is the vital air ; he therewith covers the whole body : he thus puts vital air into the whole body. And, assuredly, whatsoever member thereof he should not reach, that member of him (Agni) the vital air would not

¹ Or, therewith (with loose soil).

reach ; and whatever member the vital air does not reach that either dries up or withers away : let him, therefore, cover it entirely therewith.

7. [He scatters the loose soil¹, with, Vāg. S. XV, 56; *Rig-veda* I, 11, 1], 'They all have magnified Indra,'—for all beings, indeed, magnify Indra;—'the voices, him, of ocean-wide extent,'—he thereby alludes to his greatness;—'the foremost of charioteers,'—for of charioteers he is the greatest charioteer;—'the lordly lord of viands,'—viands mean food : thus, 'the lordly lord of food.' With this anushṭubh verse addressed to Indra he scatters it; for the loose soil belongs to Indra : that (layer of) loose soil is one half of Agni (the fire-altar), the (other) half is the collection of bricks.

8. Here, now, they say, 'Whilst he lays down the bricks with all kinds of metres, and with (verses addressed to) all deities, he now scatters (the soil) with a single (verse) addressed to a single deity,—how is this one half of Agni?' Indra, surely, is equal to all the gods; hence in that he scatters it with a (verse) addressed to Indra, this (soil) is one half of Agni. And as to its being (done) with an anushṭubh verse,—the Anushṭubh is speech, and all metres are speech : thereby also it is one half.

9. He then lays down the Vikarṇī and Svayam-ātrinnā (bricks),—the Vikarṇī is Vāyu (the wind), and the last naturally-perforated one is the sky : he thus sets up both the wind and the sky. He lays them down as the last (highest), for wind and sky are the highest; and close together, for wind and

¹ Taking it from the edge of the Kātvāla or pit, cf. VII, 1, 1, 36.

sky are close together. The Vikarṇī he lays down first : he thereby places the wind on this side of the sky ; whence that wind blows only on this side (thereof).

10. And, again, as to why he lays down the Vikarṇī. When, on that (former) occasion, they make the horse smell (the pile of bricks of) the (first) layer¹, then yonder sun strings these worlds to himself on a thread. Now that thread is the same as the wind ; and that wind is the same as this Vikarṇī : thus when he lays down the latter, then yonder sun strings to himself these worlds on a thread.

11. And, again, as to why he lays down the Vikarṇī and the Svāyamâtrinnâ ; the Vikarṇī, doubtless, is vital power, and the naturally-perforated one is vital air : he thus bestows both vital power and vital air. He lays them down as the two last (highest bricks), because vital power and vital air are the two highest (endowments) ; and close together, because vital power and vital air are closely (bound) together. The upper (northern) Vikarṇī he lays down first² : He thereby encloses the vital air on both sides in vital power.

12. [He lays it down, with, Vâg. S. XV, 62 ; *Rig-veda* VII, 3, 2], 'When, like a snorting steed, that longeth for the pasture, he started forth from the great enclosure, then the wind fanned his flame, and black then was thy path ;'—for when the wind fans his (Agni's) flame,

¹ See VII, 3, 2, 13.

² As 'uttarâm' means both 'northern' and 'higher,' so 'pûrvâm' means both 'first' and 'eastern,' hence, by a whimsical play on these double meanings, 'on both (or two) sides.'

then his path does become black. With a trishṭubh verse he lays it down, because Vāyu (the wind) is of trishṭubh nature; with one relating to Agni, because it is Agni's performance; with an undefined one, because Vāyu is undefined. And as to his saying 'the wind,' Vāyu indeed is the wind.

13. He then lays down the Svayamātrinnā, with (Vāg. S. XV, 63), 'I seat thee in the seat of the vital power,'—the vital power, doubtless, is yonder (sun), and his seat this is;—'the animating,'—for he (the sun) animates all this universe;—'in the shadow,'—for in his shadow all this universe is;—'in the heart of the sea,'—for this, indeed, is the heart of the (aerial) sea¹;—'the radiant, the luminous,'—for radiant and luminous is the sky;—'thou that illumines the sky, the earth and the wide air;—for thus, indeed, does he (the sun) illumine these worlds.

14. 'May Parameshṭin settle thee,'—for Parameshṭin saw this fifth layer².

15. And, again, as to why he lays it down by means of Parameshṭin. When Pragâpati had become disjointed, the deities took him and went off in different directions. Parameshṭin took his head, and kept going away from him.

16. He spake to him, 'Come to me and restore unto me that wherewith thou hast gone from me!'—'What will therefrom accrue to me?'—'That part of my body shall be sacred to thee!'—'So be it!' So Parameshṭin restored that to him.

17. Now that last self-perforated (brick) is just

¹ The topmost naturally-perforated brick represents the heavens.

² See VI, 2, 3, 5; 10.

that part of him (Pragâpati-Agni); and when he now lays it down in this place, he thereby restores to him what part of his body this is: that is why he lays it down in this place.

18. 'On the back of the sky, thee, the wide and broad one!'—for this (top of the altar) is indeed the back of the sky, and it is both wide and broad¹;—'Sustain thou the sky! make firm the sky! injure not the sky!'—that is, 'Sustain thy self, make firm thy self, injure not thy self (body)!'

19. 'For all out-breathing, off-breathing, through-breathing, up-breathing!'—the naturally-perforated (brick) is the vital air, and the vital air truly serves for everything here;—'for a resting-place, for a moving-place!'—the naturally-perforated (bricks) are these worlds, and these worlds are the resting-place and the moving-place;—'May Sûrya guard thee,'—that is, 'May Sûrya protect thee,'—'with mighty well-being,'—that is, 'with great well-being;'—'with the safest roof!'—that is, 'with whatever roof (abode) is the safest.'

20. Separately he lays them down, for separate are wind and sky; and once only he 'settles' them: he thereby makes them the same, for vital power and vital air are the same. They are both of them stones and both of them naturally-perforated; for vital power and vital air are the same. He then pronounces the Sûdadohas over them,—the Sûdadohas means vital air; he thus makes them

¹ Though, in the text of the formula, the adjectives are feminine, and evidently refer to the brick, the author here makes them neuter, referring them to 'prîshāṁ,' the back (of the sky).

continuous, joins them together by means of the vital air.

21. 'Those his well-like milking ones',—a well (sûda) means water, and milking means food;—'the speckled ones mix the Soma,'—the speckled (cow) means food;—'at the birth of the gods,'—the birth of the gods is the year;—'the tribes,'—the tribes (vis), doubtless, are the sacrifice, for all beings are ranged (vishṭa)² under the sacrifice;—'in the three spheres of the heavens,'—the three spheres of the heavens, doubtless, are the (three) pressings (of Soma): he thus means the pressings. With an anushṭubh verse (he performs this rite), for the Anushṭubh is speech, and speech (includes) all vital airs; and by means of speech, that is vital air, he thus makes these two (bricks) continuous, and joins them together. This same Sûdadohas, whilst being a single (verse), extends over all the bricks, whence—the Sûdadohas being the vital air—this vital air, whilst being one only, extends over all the limbs, over the whole body.

FOURTH BRĀHMANA.

1. On the (three) naturally-perforated (bricks) he (the Sacrificer) sings sāmans; for the naturally-perforated ones are these (three) worlds; and they

¹ Part iii, p. 307, note 2, the following translation of this difficult and obscure verse was proposed:—'At his birth the well-like milking, speckled ones mix the Soma (draught), the clans of the gods in the three spheres of the heavens.'

² Literally, have entered, or settled. At XIV, 8, 13, 3, the same etymological word-play occurs, only 'food (anne)' being substituted for 'sacrifice (yagñe)'; where the St. Petersburg. Dict. takes 'vishṭa' in the sense of 'entered, i. e. contained.'

are just these (ordinary) stones. The gods, having laid them down, saw them as such: that they were dry stones.

2. They spake, 'Think ye upon this, how we may lay sap, the means of subsistence, into these worlds!' They spake, 'Meditate ye!' whereby, doubtless, they meant to say, 'Seek ye a layer! seek ye how we may lay sap, the means of subsistence, into these worlds!'

3. Whilst meditating, they saw these sāmāns (hymn-tunes), and sang them; and by means of them they laid sap, the means of subsistence, into these worlds; and in like manner does the Sacrificer now, when he sings these sāmāns, lay sap, the means of subsistence, into these worlds.

4. Over the naturally-perforated ones he sings them: the naturally-perforated ones being these worlds, it is into these worlds that he thereby lays sap, the means of subsistence.

5. He sings (the tunes) on the (mystic) words 'Bhûs, Bhuvās, Svar';—bhûs (earth), doubtless, is this world, bhuvās is the air-world, and svar (light) is yonder world: into these worlds he thereby lays sap, the means of subsistence.

6. They have different preludes, and the same *nnāle*¹; and as to their having different preludes, it

¹ These hymn-tunes are given, Sām. Ved. V, p. 487, in the way in which they are here to be chanted. They consist entirely of the respective words, separated four times by musical interjections (stobhas) inserted between them, ending with the common finale: thus, (1) bhûh-bhûh-hoyi-bhûh-hoyi-bhûh-hâ-ûvâ-e-suvargyotî-h; (2) bhuvâh-bhuva-hoyi-bhuva-hâ-ûvâ-e-suvargyotî-h; (3) suvâh-suva-hoyi-suva-hoyi-suva-hâ-ûvâ-e-suvargyotî-h. Along with these, as to be chanted on the same model, are given, (4) the 'satyam sâman,' beginning 'satyâm-satyam-hoyi' &c., and

is because they (the gods) saw them separately; and as to their having the same finale (nidhana), it is because there is only one foundation, only one finale to the sacrifice—even heaven: therefore they have 'svar-gyotis (heaven-light)' for their finale.

7. He then bestrews him (Agni, the fire-altar and Agni's body) with chips of gold. Now that whole Agni had been completed, and the gods bestowed on him immortality, that highest form; and in like manner does this one now bestow upon him that highest, immortal form¹.

8. And, again, as to why he bestrews him with chips of gold. Now on that former occasion he first lays into him that pleasing form, the gold plate and the (gold) man²; and he now decks him all over with a pleasing form.

9. With two hundred (chips he bestrews him) each time,—two-footed is the Sacrificer, and Agni

(5) the 'purusha-sâman,' beginning 'purushâh-purusha-hoyi' &c.; which are similarly chanted by the Sacrificer at the beginning of the first layer, when laying down the lotus leaf (part iii, p. 363, where note 1 should be corrected in accordance with the present note), and the gold man (ib. p. 369, where the note requires likewise to be corrected), as the 'kîre gâyati,' 'he sings on the bright one,' of the text cannot refer to the 'Kîtra-sâman' there referred to. Cf. *Lâty. S. I, 5, 8*.—In regard to these sâmans (hymn-verses), the text might lead one to suppose that they only consist of two, instead of the usual four parts (omitting the intermediate Udgîtha and Pratihâra, cf. part ii, p. 310 note). The sâman being, however, sung by the Sacrificer himself, the usual distinction into parts to be performed by different chanters was probably dispensed with.

¹ That is, the Sacrificer bestows it on Agni; with probably, however, the *double entente*, 'this Adhvaryu priest bestows it on the Sacrificer.'

² See VII, 4, 1, 10 seq.; 15 seq.

is the sacrificer: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much he thus bestows upon him immortality, that highest form. Five times (he strews),—five-layered is the altar, five seasons make a year, and Agni is the year: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much he thus bestows upon him immortality, that highest form. With a thousand (chips he bestrews him),—a thousand means everything: with everything he thus confers upon him immortality, that highest form.

10. First (he scatters them) at the back whilst standing with his face towards the east; then on the left (north) side towards the south; then in front whilst facing the west; then, having gone round the back, from the south whilst facing the north: this is from left to right (sunwise), for that is (the way) with the gods. Then, having gone round, (he scatters chips) at the back whilst standing with his face to the east, for in this way that former performance of him¹ took place.

11. [He scatters, with, Vâg. S. XV, 65], 'The fore-measure of a thousand thou art,—The counter-measure of a thousand thou art,—The up-measure of a thousand thou art,—The thousandfold thou art,—For a thousand thee!'—a thousand, doubtless, means everything: thus, 'Everything thou art,—thee for everything!'

12. Now, then, the consideration of the layer-fillings. The first layer is this (terrestrial) world; and the filling of soil means cattle: thus, in

¹ Viz. of Agni (and the Sacrificer). The ceremony alluded to was the fivefold libation of ghee offered on the gold man (representing Agni and the Sacrificer), see VII, 4, 1, 34-35.

covering the first layer with a filling of soil he covers this (terrestrial) world with cattle.

13. The second layer is the air, and the filling of soil means birds: thus, in covering the second layer with a filling of soil, he covers (fills) the air with birds.

14. The third layer is the sky, and the filling of soil means stars; thus, in covering the third layer with a filling of soil, he covers the sky with stars.

15. The fourth layer is the sacrifice, and the filling of soil means sacrificial gifts: thus, in covering the fourth layer with a filling of soil, he covers the sacrifice with sacrificial gifts (to the priests).

16. The fifth layer is the Sacrificer, and the filling of soil means progeny (or subjects): thus, in covering the fifth layer with a filling of soil, he covers (abundantly supplies) the Sacrificer with progeny (or subjects).

17. The sixth layer is the heavenly world, and the filling of soil means the gods: thus in covering the sixth layer with a filling of soil, he fills the heavenly world with gods.

18. The seventh layer is immortality,—that is the last (layer) he lays down, and thus bestows immortality as the highest thing of all this (universe): therefore immortality is the highest thing of all this (universe); therefore the gods are not separated therefrom; and therefore they are immortal. Thus much as to the deity¹.

19. Now, as to the Self (body). The first layer is the legs, and the downward flowing vital air; and

¹ That is, so much as to the objects to which the different parts of the altar are sacred or dedicated.

the filling of soil is the flesh: thus, in covering the first layer with a filling of soil, he covers that (part) of his (Agni's) body with flesh. [He does so] after laying down bricks, and bricks mean bone: he thus covers the bone with flesh. He does not cover (the altar-site) below (the first layer), whence these vital airs are not closed up below; but he covers it above, and thereby covers that (part) of his body above with flesh; and hence that (part) of his body above, being covered with flesh, is not visible.

20. The second layer is that (part of the body) which is above the legs and below the waist; and the filling of soil is flesh: thus, in covering the second layer with a filling of soil, he covers that (part) of his body with flesh. [He does so] after laying down bricks, and bricks mean bone: he thus covers the bone with flesh. He places them on a filling of soil, and covers them with a filling of soil: he thus covers that (part) of his body on both sides with flesh; whence that part of his body, being on both sides covered with flesh, is not visible.

21. The third layer is the waist itself; the fourth layer is that (part of the body) which is above the waist and below the neck; the fifth layer is the neck, the sixth layer is the head, and the seventh layer is the vital airs. This he lays down as the last (or highest): he thus makes the vital airs the highest of all this (universe), and hence the vital airs are the highest thing of all this (universe). He places it on a filling of soil; and the filling of soil means flesh; he thus covers (the channels of) the vital airs with flesh. He does not cover it above, whence these (channels of the) vital airs are not closed up above.

NINTH KÂṆDA.

THE BUILDING OF THE SACRED FIRE-ALTAR
(continued).SATARUDRIYA LUSTRATION, INSTALMENT AND
CONSECRATION OF FIRE, AND SOMA-SACRIFICE.

FIRST ADHYÂYA. FIRST BRÂHMANA.

THE SATARUDRIYA.

THIS solemn and awful ceremony consists of 425 oblations to Rudra, the representative of the fearful aspects of life and nature, accompanied by appropriate formulas addressed to the various forms of the terrible god, and his associates, with a view to appeasing their wrath. These formulas make up a complete *kâṇḍa* (XVI) of the *Vâgasaneyi-saṃhitâ*, and constitute a special Upanishad. Though only a few of the formulas are actually referred to in the text of the *Brâhmana*, the different portions of which this dismal litany consists are otherwise alluded to, and for this reason, as well as on account of its intrinsic interest, as doubtless reflecting, to a considerable extent, the popular belief in demoniac agencies to which man is constantly exposed, a complete translation of the Satarudriya formulas is here given. For a German translation of the Taittirîya recension of the text, with the various readings of the *Kâṭhaka* and *Vâgasaneyin* versions, see A. Weber, *Ind. Stud.* II, p. 14 seqq.

I. 1. Reverence, O Rudra, be to thy wrath; and to thine arrow be reverence; and to both thine arms be reverence! 2. What auspicious form there is of thine, free from terror and boding of evil, with that most propitious form look down upon us, O mountain-dweller! 3. The shaft thou bearest in thy hand to hurl, O mountain-dweller, make it harmless, O protector of mountains, injure not man nor beast! 4. With auspicious speech we call upon thee, O mountain-dweller, that all these living beings of ours may

be healthy and of good cheer! 5. May he plead for us as our intercessor, the first divine physician: crushing all serpents, turn thou aside all practices of witchcraft! 6. That tawny one, and the ruddy and the brown one, the auspicious—the Rudras that hover around him by thousands in the quarters: their wrath do we deprecate. 7. That one who glideth downwards (the sun) blood-red and blue-necked—the cowherds have seen him and the water-bearers (f. the clouds) have seen him—be he gracious unto us, when seen! 8. Reverence be to the blue-necked, thousand-eyed showerer; and what henchmen there are of his, to them do I render homage. 9. Loose thou the string from the ends of thy bow; and cast away the arrows in thy hand, O holy one! 10. Stringless be the bow of the coil-braided one, and arrowless his quiver! may his arrows be futile, and empty his scabbard! 11. With that plague-repelling weapon in thy hand, with thy bow, protect us, O best of showerers, on all sides! 12. May the shaft of thy bow spare us on all sides, and far from us lay down that quiver of thine! 13. Unstringing the bow, and breaking off the points of thy shafts, be thou gracious and well-disposed unto us, O thousand-eyed lord of a hundred quivers! 14. Reverence be to thine unstrung weapon, the powerful one; and reverence be to thine arms and to thy bow! 15. Neither our full-grown, nor our little one, neither the virile, nor the unborn, neither our father strike thou, nor our mother: harm not our dear bodies, O Rudra! 16. Neither to our children, and our children's children, nor to our life, neither to our kine nor to our horses do thou injury! smite not our shining warriors: with offering we ever invoke thee, O Rudra!

II. 17. Reverence be to the golden-armed leader of hosts, and to the lord of regions be reverence! reverence be to the green-haired trees, and to the lord of beasts be reverence! reverence be to the grass-hued shining one, and to the lord of roads be reverence! reverence be to the gold-locked wearer of the sacred cord, and to the lord of the strong-bodied be reverence! 18. Reverence be to the dusky smiter, and to the lord of food be reverence! reverence be to Bhava's weapon, and to the lord of moving creatures be reverence! reverence be to the strung-bowed Rudra, and to the lord of fields be reverence! reverence be to the inviolable charioteer, and to the lord of forests be reverence! 19. Reverence be to the ruddy architect, and to the lord of trees be reverence! reverence be to the ubiquitous producer of wealth, and to the lord of plants be reverence! reverence be to the wise merchant, and to the lord of forest retreats be reverence! reverence be to the loud-noised crier,

and to the lord of wanderers be reverence! 20. Reverence be to the onward-rushing one with his (weapon) levelled everywhere, and to the lord of beings be reverence! reverence be to the victorious smiter, and to the lord of victorious (hosts) be reverence! reverence be to the matchless swordsman, and to the lord of thieves be reverence! reverence be to the prowling rover, and to the lord of the forest be reverence! 21. Reverence be to the tricking arch-trickster, and to the lord of pilferers be reverence! reverence be to the well-quivered swordsman, and to the lord of robbers be reverence! reverence be to the slaying spearmen, and to the lord of pillagers be reverence! reverence be to the night-walking sword-wielders, and to the lord of cut-throats be reverence!

III. 22. Reverence be to the turbaned mountaineer, and to the lord of spoilers be reverence! reverence be to shooters of arrows, and to ye bowmen be reverence! reverence be to the bow-stretching, and to ye that fix the arrow be reverence! reverence be to ye that pull (the bow), and to ye that hurl be reverence! 23. Reverence be to ye that shoot, and to ye that pierce be reverence! reverence be to ye that sleep, and to ye that wake be reverence! reverence be to ye, the lying, and to ye, the sitting, be reverence! reverence be to ye, the standing, and to ye, the running, be reverence! 24. Reverence be to gatherings, and to ye, lords of the gathering, be reverence! reverence be to horses, and to ye, masters of horses, be reverence! reverence be to the victorious (armies), and to ye that smite be reverence! reverence be to the serried (hosts), and to ye that crush be reverence! 25. Reverence be to the troops, and to ye, chiefs of troops, be reverence! reverence be to the bands, and to ye, chiefs of bands, be reverence! reverence be to sharpeners, and to ye, chiefs of sharpeners, be reverence! reverence be to the unshapen, and to ye, the all-shaped, be reverence! 26. Reverence be to armies, and to ye, leaders of armies, be reverence! reverence be to chariot-fighters, and to ye, the chariotless, be reverence! reverence be to car-fighters, and to ye, charioteers, be reverence! reverence be to the adult, and to ye, children, be reverence!

IV. 27. Reverence be to carpenters, and to ye, wheelwrights, be reverence! reverence be to potters, and to ye, blacksmiths, be reverence! reverence be to the jungle tribes, and to ye, fishermen, be reverence! reverence be to dog-keepers, and to ye huntsmen be reverence! 28. Reverence be to dogs, and to ye masters of dogs be reverence! reverence be to Bhava and to Rudra! reverence be to Sarva and to Pasupati (lord of beasts)! reverence be to Nilagriva

(the blue-necked) and to *Sitikantha* (the white-throated)! 29. Reverence be to him of the coiled hair and to the shaven-haired one! reverence be to the thousand-eyed and to the hundred-bowed one! reverence be to the mountain-dweller and to the bald one! reverence be to the chief of showerers and to the arrow-shooter! 30. Reverence be to the short and the dwarfish one! reverence be to the tall and the old one! reverence be to the full-grown and the growing one! reverence be to the topmost and first one! 31. Reverence be to the swift and agile one! reverence be to the fast and nimble one! reverence be to the surging and roaring one! reverence be to the river-dweller and the isle-dweller!

V. 32. Reverence be to the eldest and to the youngest! reverence be to the firstborn and to the afterborn! reverence be to the middlemost and to the abortive (?) one! reverence be to the hindmost and to the bottommost one! 33. Reverence be to him dwelling in the air-castles, and to him in the magic cord-ring! reverence be to him who is in Yama's (death's) power, and to him who liveth in safety! reverence be to him in (the height of his) fame, and to him who is at his end! reverence be to him on the tilled land, and to him on the threshing-floor! 34. Reverence be to him dwelling in the wood, and to him in the jungle! reverence be to the sound and to the echo! reverence be to him of the swift army, and to him of the swift chariot! reverence be to the hero and the shatterer! 35. Reverence be to the helmeted and the armoured one! reverence be to the mailed and the cuirassed one! reverence be to the famous one, and to the leader of the famous army! reverence be to him dwelling in the drum, and to him in the drum-stick! 36. Reverence be to the bold, and the deliberate one! reverence be to the swordsman, and to the quiver-bearer! reverence be to the sharp-shafted and the armed one! reverence be to the well-armed one, and to the wielder of a goodly bow!

VI. 37. Reverence be to him dwelling in the stream, and to him on the road! reverence be to him in the mere (?), and to him in the pool! reverence be to him in the ditch, and to him in the lake! reverence be to him in the river, and to him in the pond! 38. Reverence be to him dwelling in the well, and to him in the bank! reverence be to him in the clouded sky (?), and to him in the heat of the sun! reverence be to him in the cloud, and to him in the lightning! reverence be to him in the rain, and to him in the drought! 39. Reverence be to him dwelling in the wind, and to him in the storm-cloud (?)! reverence be to him dwelling in the house, and to the guardian of the house! reverence be to Soma

and Rudra! reverence be to the dusky and the ruddy one! 40. Reverence be to the propitious one, and to the lord of beasts! reverence be to the terrible and fearful one! reverence be to the near-hitter and the far-hitter! reverence be to the slayer and the slaughterer! reverence be to the gold-haired trees! reverence be to the deliverer!

VII. 41. Reverence be to the gentle and the friendly one! reverence be to the peaceful and pleasing one! reverence be to the kindly and the kindest!

VIII. 42. Reverence be to him who is on the further shore, and to him on the near shore! reverence be to him who ferrieth over, and to him who bringeth ashore! reverence be to him dwelling in the ford, and to him on the bank! reverence be to him dwelling in the sward, and to him in the foam! 43. Reverence be to him dwelling in the sand, and to him in the current! reverence be to him dwelling in the stony and to him in habitable places! reverence be to the coil-haired and to the straight-haired (?) one! reverence be to him dwelling in barren land, and to him on the beaten track! 44. Reverence be to him dwelling in the cow-pen, and to him in the cattle-shed! reverence be to him dwelling in the couch, and to him in the house! reverence be to him dwelling in the heart, and to him in the whirlpool! reverence be to him dwelling in the well, and to him in the abyss! 45. Reverence be to him dwelling in what is dried up, and to him in what is green! reverence be to him dwelling in the dust, and to him in the mist! reverence be to him dwelling in the copse, and to him in the shrub! reverence be to him in the ground, and to him in the gully! 46. Reverence be to him dwelling in the leaf, and to him in the leaf-fall (sere leaf)! reverence be to the growler, and to the smiter! reverence be to the snatcher, and to the repeller (?)! reverence be to the arrow-makers, and to ye bow-makers!—Reverence be to ye, the sparkling hearts of the gods! reverence be to the discriminating, reverence to the destructive, reverence to the irremovable!

IX. 47. Chaser, lord of the (Soma) plant! blue-red cleaver! fright and hurt not these people and these cattle: let none of us sicken! 48. These prayers we bring before the mighty Rudra, the coil-braided smiter of heroes, that there may be safety for the two-footed and the four-footed, and that everything in this village may be healthy and thriving. 49. That friendly form of thine, O Rudra, friendly and ever healing, friendly and healing to the stricken: therewith be gracious unto us that we may live! 50. May the shaft of Rudra spare us, and the ill-will of the violent and malevo-

lent one: unstring the strong (bow) from (hurting) our patrons, O showerer (of gifts), and be gracious unto our children and our children's children! 51. Be thou kindly *and* well-disposed towards us, O kindest chief of showerers, lay down thy weapon on the highest tree, and putting on the hide come and join us, bearing the spear! 52. O blood-red scatterer, reverence be unto thee, holy one, let those thousand shafts of thine lay low another than us! 53. The thousandfold thousand shafts of thine arms—turn thou away their heads from us, O holy lord! 54. What countless thousands of Rudras there are upon earth, their bows do we unstring (and cast away) at a thousand leagues. 55. The Bhavas in this great sea, the air: their bows do we unstring at a thousand leagues. 56. The blue-necked, white-throated Rudras seated in the sky: their bows do we unstring at a thousand leagues. 57. The blue-necked, white-throated Sarvas dwelling below the earth: their bows do we unstring at a thousand leagues. 58. The grass-green in the trees, the blue-necked, blood-red ones: their bows do we unstring at a thousand leagues. 59. They who are the chiefs of spirits, hairless and coil-braided: their bows do we unstring at a thousand leagues. 60. They who are the guardians of roads, food-bearers, life-fighters (?): their bows do we unstring at a thousand leagues. 61. They who haunt the bathing-places, wielders of spear and sword: their bows do we unstring at a thousand leagues. 62. They who strike men at their meals, and in their cups those that drink: their bows do we unstring at a thousand leagues. 63. What Rudras are scattered over the regions, so many and more: their bows do we unstring at a thousand leagues.—64. Reverence be to the Rudras dwelling in the sky, whose arrows the rain is! to them (I stretch) ten (fingers) eastward, ten southward, ten westward, ten northward, ten upward: to them be reverence! may they be gracious unto us and help us: whomsoever we hate, and whosoever hateth us, him we cast into their jaws! 65. Reverence be to the Rudras dwelling in the air, whose arrows the wind is! to them (I stretch) ten (fingers) eastward, ten southward, ten westward, ten northward, ten upward: to them be reverence! may they be gracious unto us and help us: whomsoever we hate, and whosoever hateth us, him we cast into their jaws! 66. Reverence be to the Rudras dwelling upon earth, whose arrows food is! to them (I stretch) ten (fingers) eastward, ten southward, ten westward, ten northward, ten upward: to them be reverence! may they be gracious unto us and help us: whomsoever we hate, and whosoever hateth us, him we cast into their jaws!

1. He then performs the Satarudriya offering! This whole Agni has now¹ been completed: he now is the deity Rudra. Upon him the gods bestowed that highest form, immortality. Flaming he there stood longing for food. The gods were afraid of him lest he should hurt them.

2. They spake, 'Let us gather together food for him: therewith we will appease him!' They gathered for him that food, the Sântadevatya², and thereby appeased him; and inasmuch as they thereby appeased (sam) the god (deva), it is called Sântadevatya;—Sântadevatya, doubtless, is here called mystically 'Satarudriya³, for the gods love the mystic. And in like manner does this Sacrificer now bestow upon him that highest form, immortality. Flaming he there stands, longing for food. He gathers for him that food, the Sântadevatya, and thereby appeases him.

3. He offers wild sesamum seeds. He (Agni) grows when he is being built up: he grows for (the consumption) of every kind of food. And wild sesamum seeds represent both kinds of food, the cultivated as well as the wild-growing: inasmuch as they are sesamum seeds they are a cultivated (kind of food), and inasmuch as they ripen on unploughed land they are wild-growing; he thus satisfies him with both kinds of food, the cultivated as well as the wild-growing.

¹ Or, here, in this (atra), in the shape of this (altar) on which the fire is to be deposited.

² That is, that whereby the deity is propitiated or appeased.

³ A fanciful etymology of Sata-rudriya, as if it were sânta (propitiated) + rudriya, instead of 'that which relates to a hundred Rudras'; cf. paragraph 7.

4. He offers by means of an arka-leaf¹,—the Arka-tree (*Calotropis gigantea*) is food: he thus gratifies him with food.

5. He offers on (three) enclosing-stones:—these enclosing-stones are the (three) Agnis; and thus it is over Agni himself that these oblations of his become offered.

6. And as to why he performs the Satarudriya offering. When Pragâpati had become disjointed, the deities departed from him. Only one god did not leave him, to wit, Manyu (wrath): extended he remained within. He (Pragâpati) cried, and the tears of him that fell down settled on Manyu. He became the hundred-headed, thousand-eyed, hundred-quivered Rudra. And the other drops that fell down, spread over these worlds in countless numbers, by thousands; and inasmuch as they originated from crying (rud), they were called Rudras (roarers). That hundred-headed, thousand-eyed, hundred-quivered Rudra, with his bow strung, and his arrow fitted to the string, was inspiring fear, being in quest of food. The gods were afraid of him.

7. They spake unto Pragâpati, 'We are afraid of this one, lest he should hurt us!' He spake, 'Gather food for him, and appease him therewith!' They gathered for him that food, the Satarudriya (offering), and thereby appeased him; and inasmuch as they thereby appeased (sam) the hundred-headed (sata-srsha) Rudra, it is called Sataśrsharudrasamānya,—and sataśrsharudrasamānya, doubtless, is what

¹ That is to say, the leaf is used in lieu of the ordinary offering-spoon. Whilst making continual oblations on one of the three stones from this leaf, held in his right hand, the priest holds a piece of arka wood in his left hand. Mahidh. on Vāg. S. XVI, 1.

they mystically call Satarudriya, for the gods love the mystic. And in like manner does this (Sacrificer) now gather for him that food, the Satarudriya, and appease him thereby.

8. He offers gavedhukâ flour; for from the place where that deity lay disjointed, gavedhukâ plants (coix barbata) sprang forth: he thus gratifies him by his own portion, by his own life-sap.

9. He offers by means of an arka-leaf; for that tree sprang from the resting-place of that god: he thus gratifies him by his own portion, by his own life-sap.

10. He offers on (three) enclosing-stones¹, for the enclosing-stones are the hair, and neither poison nor anything else injures one at the hair. He offers whilst standing on the left (north) side of Agni (the altar), with his face to the north; for in that region lies the house of that god²: it is thus in his own region that he gratifies him, in his own region he contents him with offering.

11. The first Svâhâ ('hail') he utters on the knee-high one,—what is knee-high is, as it were, below, and below, as it were, is this (terrestrial) world: he thus gratifies those Rudras who entered this world.

12. Then on the navel-high one,—what is navel-

¹ The site of the altar is enclosed within a continuous line of 261 parisrits, about half a foot in width, running along its edge. Their height is indeterminate, with the exception of three of them, dug in at the back (west) corner of the left wing, of which one is to reach up to the knee, the second up to the navel, and the third up to the mouth; each of the latter two standing to the left (north) of the preceding one.

² See I, 7, 3, 20, with note. Agni, in the form of the formidable Rudra (who is to be kept at a distance), is referred to.

high is, as it were, the middle ; and the middle, as it were, is the air-world : he thus gratifies those Rudras who entered the air-world.

13. Then on the one reaching up to the mouth,—what reaches up to the mouth is, as it were, above, and above, as it were, is yonder world : he thus gratifies those Rudras who entered yonder world. [He does so] with Svâhâ,—the Svâhâ is food : with food he thus gratifies them.

14. [He offers, with, Vâg. S. XVI, 1], 'Reverence, O Rudra, be to thy wrath!' he thereby does reverence to that wrath which remained extended within him ;—'And to thine arrow be reverence, and to both thine arms be reverence!' for it was by his arrow and his arms that he was inspiring fear.

15. That god who became the hundred-headed (Rudra) is the chief (kshatra¹), and those others who originated from the drops are the peasants (clansmen) : those peasants in the first place assigned to that chief this as his special share, to wit, this first chapter of formulas², and gratified him thereby. And in like manner does this (Sacrificer) now assign this to him as his special fore-share, and gratify him thereby. Hence this (section) is addressed to a single deity, to Rudra ; for it is him he thereby gratifies.

16. There are here fourteen formulas,—thirteen months are a year, and Pragâpati is the fourteenth ;

¹ Literally, the ruling power.

² The first anuvâka of kâṇḍa XVI of the Vâg. S. consists of sixteen verses ; which of these the fourteen referred to in the next paragraph are is not clear to me.

and Pragâpati is Agni : as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much food he thus gratifies him. 'Reverence! reverence!' he says;—reverence being sacrifice, it is by sacrifice, by reverence, that he thus reveres him. Therefore he must not mention any one unworthy of sacrifice, for it would be just as if he were to say to him, 'Sacrifice be to thee!'

17. He then makes offering to those forming pairs¹: 'Reverence to so and so! reverence to so and so!' It is as if he were to say, 'Thou, N. N., and this one, do not ye two injure us!' for in no wise does a man who is known and appealed to² injure us.

18. [Vâg. S. XVI, 17], 'Reverence be to the golden-armed leader of hosts, and to the lord of regions be reverence!' for he (Rudra-Agni) is indeed the golden-armed³ leader of hosts, and the lord of regions. And in that everything in this second chapter of formulas applies to one and the same deity, thereby he gratifies that (god Rudra), and makes the chief to have a share in the people (or the clan): hence whatever belongs to the people⁴, in that the chieftain has a share. And those (Rudras) that spread over these worlds, countless, by thousands⁵, they are the deities to whom he now offers.

19. He thus makes offering to the tribes (of Rudras), for it was those tribes, those Rudras, that spread, and wheresoever they are there he thereby gratifies them. And thus, indeed, (he gratifies) those tribes of Rudras; and, men being after the

¹ That is from Vâg. S. XVI, 17 seqq.

² Or, who is appealed to as being known to us, i.e. in terms showing that he is known to us.

³ That is, aureis brachiis instructus.

⁴ Pragâyâ yad dhanam asti, Sây.

⁵ See paragraph 28.

manner of the gods, therefore also these tribes of men : tribe after tribe he thus gratifies them.

20. Now some of these (formulas) have 'reverence' on both sides, and others on one side only ;—more terrible and more unappeased, indeed, are those (Rudras) that have 'reverence' on both sides : on both sides he thereby appeases them by sacrifice, by reverence.

21. With (each set of) eighty (formulas) he utters the Svāhā¹,—on the first anuvāka, and on eighty, and on eighty ; and the formulas which follow as far as the 'unstringing'-formulas (Vâg. S. XVI, 54-63),—eighties² mean food : by means of food he thus gratifies them.

22. He thus mutters these formulas (the last four of Vâg. S. XVI, 46), 'Reverence be to you, the sparkling (hearts of the gods)!' for this is his favourite resort, either as a dear son or the heart : hence whenever he should be in fear of that god (Rudra), let him offer with those mystic utterances, for he draws nigh unto the favourite resort of that god, and so that god does not injure him.

23. 'Reverence be to you, the sparkling³,

¹ The calculation here, as so often in regard to metres, is rather a loose one. Anuvāka I, consisting of sixteen verses, is taken as amounting to the first fourscore formulas ; anuvākas II and III, consisting of ten *kandīkās* (each of which is calculated to consist of eight mantras), constitute the second fourscore ; anuvākas IV and V again form the third fourscore ; anuvākas VI-VIII (save the last four formulas, see parag. 22), the fourth fourscore ; and from there to the 'unstringing'-formulas, that is, from within XVI, 46 to 53, the fifth fourscore. At the end of each eighty formulas he is to utter one Svāhā (*sakṛī svāhākāraḥ*, Sây.).

² An etymological play on the word 'asṭi,' as if derived from *as*, to eat.

³ ? Or, scatterers, sprinklers (*kirika*), root *kṛī*. The author of the

for those (Rudras) produce (kar) everything here,—‘hearts of the gods!’—Agni, Vâyu and Âditya (fire, wind and sun), these truly are the hearts of the gods;—‘Reverence to the discriminating!’—for those (gods) discriminate everything here;—‘Reverence to the destructive!’—for those (gods) destroy whom they wish to destroy;—‘Reverence to the irremovable!’—for those (gods) are not (to be) removed from these worlds.

24. He then mutters those that follow (Vâg. S. XVI, 47 seq.), ‘Chaser! lord of the (Soma) plant!’—that (god) is indeed a repeller, for he chases away whom he wishes to chase away;—‘lord of the plant’—that is, ‘lord of the Soma-plant;’—‘O blue-red cleaver¹;’—these are names and forms of him: he thus gratifies him by calling him by his names;—‘frighten and hurt not these people and these cattle! let none of us sicken!’ as the text, so the sense.

25. That god (Rudra) is the kshatra (ruling power; chieftainship or chief); and for that chief these peasants set apart this special fore-share, to wit, that first section (of formulas); and now he (the Sacrificer) sets apart for him that after-share, and thereby gratifies him; and hence this (section) also belongs to a single deity, to wit, to Rudra; for it is him he thereby gratifies.

Brâhmana, on the other hand, evidently takes it in the sense of ‘maker, producer.’

¹ Thus (‘Zerspalter’) daridra is probably correctly interpreted (from root ‘dar,’ to split) by Prof. Weber; whilst the commentators take it in its ordinary sense of ‘poor’ (i.e. without an assistant, Mahidh.); blue-red Rudra is called inasmuch as he is the ‘nila-kantha’ blue-necked, and red all over the rest of his body.

26. These are seven formulas,—of seven layers the fire-altar consists, and the year consists of seven months, and Agni is the year: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, by so much food he thus gratifies him. These two kinds (of formulas) amount to twenty-one,—the twelve months, the five seasons, these three worlds, and yonder sun as the twenty-first (make up) this amount.

27. He then offers (the libations of the) 'unstringing'-formulas¹. For at that time the gods, having gratified those (Rudras) by that food, unstrung their bows by means of these 'unstringing'-formulas; and in like manner this (Sacrificer), having gratified them by that food, now unstrings their bows by means of these 'unstringing'-formulas; for with an unstrung bow one injures no one.

28. Here now he says 'at a thousand leagues,' for a thousand leagues is the farthest distance; and he thus unstrings their bows at what is the farthest distance.

29. And, again, as to why he says 'at a thousand leagues,'—a thousand leagues means this Agni (fire-altar), for neither this way nor that way is there any other thing greater than he; and it is when he makes offering in the fire that he unstrings their bows at a thousand leagues.

30. 'Countless thousands,—in this great sea,'—thus, wheresoever they are, there he unstrings their bows.

¹ Viz. Vâg. S. XVI, 54-63: 'What countless thousands of Rudras there are upon earth, their bows do we unstring at a thousand leagues.—The Bhavas that are in this great sea, in the air, their bow do we unstring at a thousand leagues.' Thus each formula ends with the 'unstringing' refrain.

31. There are ten of these 'unstringing'-offerings he makes,—the Virâḡ consists of ten syllables, and Agni is Virâḡ (widely-shining or ruling); there are ten regions, and Agni is the regions; there are ten vital airs, and Agni is the vital airs: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, by so much he thus unstrings their bows.

32. He then offers the descending¹ (series of oblations). For then (in the preceding oblations) he ascends these worlds upwards from hence: this is, as it were, an ascent away from here. But this (earth) is a firm resting-place: the gods returned to this resting-place; and in like manner does the Sacrificer now return to this resting-place.

33. And, again, as to why he descends. Then (in the preceding oblations) he goes after those (gods), gratifying (propitiating) them. From thence he now recovers his own self unto life; and so does he by that self of his attain all vital power.

34. And, again, as to why he descends. He then (in the preceding oblations) gratifies those Rudras from hence upwards; he now does so again from thence hitherwards.

35. [Vâg. S. XVI 64], 'Reverence be to the Rudras dwelling in the sky,'—he thereby does reverence to those Rudras who are in yonder world; —'whose arrows the rain is,' for the rain is

¹ Vâg. S. XVI, 64-66. In making these three oblations to the Rudras in the sky, the air, and on earth respectively, the procedure is the reverse from that described in paragraphs 11-13, viz. first on the enclosing-stone which reaches up to his mouth, then on that reaching up to his navel, and lastly on that reaching up to his knee.

indeed their arrows, and by the rain they injure whom they wish to injure.

36. [Vâg. S. XVI, 65], 'Reverence be to the Rudras dwelling in the air,'—he thereby does reverence to those Rudras who are in the air;—'whose arrows the wind is,' for the wind is indeed their arrows, and by the wind they injure whom they wish to injure.

37. [Vâg. S. XVI, 66], 'Reverence be to the Rudras dwelling upon earth,'—he thereby does reverence to those Rudras who are in this (terrestrial) world;—'whose arrows food is,' for food is indeed their arrows, and by means of food they injure whom they wish to injure.

38. 'To them (I stretch) ten (fingers) forwards, ten to the right, ten backwards, ten to the left, ten upwards¹,—of ten syllables consists the Virâg, and Agni is Virâg; there are ten seasons, and Agni is the seasons; there are ten vital airs, and Agni is the vital airs: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much food he thus gratifies them.

39. And as to why he says 'ten ten,'—there are ten fingers in the joined hands²: he thus makes reverence to them in each direction; and hence he who is frightened places his hands together;—'To them be reverence!'—he thus does reverence to them;—'May they be gracious unto us!'—they thus are gracious unto him;—'whomsoever we hate, and whosoever hateth us, him we cast into their jaws!'—thus he casts into their jaws

¹ These words, as well as the spaced words in the next paragraph, are added to each of the three formulas in paragraphs 35-37.

² The joining of the hollow of the hands, by placing the tips of the fingers together, is a sign of reverence.

whomsoever he hates, and whosoever hates him. He may say, 'So-and-so I cast into their jaws!' naming him whom he hates, and then he has no longer any hold upon him. But let him take no notice of this (injunction), for indicated of himself is he whom he who knows this hates.

40. In three turns he descends,—Agni is threefold: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, by so much food he thus gratifies them. With 'Svâhâ' (he makes offering), for the Svâhâ is food: with food he thus gratifies them. Thrice (in three turns) he ascends from hence upwards,—that makes six: the significance of this has been explained¹.

41. And as to why he descends in three turns,—it is because he ascends in three turns: thus in as many turns as he ascends, in so many turns does he descend.

42. He then throws that arka-leaf² into the pit; for it is therewith that he performs that sacrificial work sacred to Rudra, and that same (leaf) is inauspicious; he now puts it away, lest any one should tread on this inauspicious (leaf), and suffer injury thereby: hence (he throws it) into the pit. And, again, as to why (he throws it) into the pit,—the pit, doubtless, means the fire, and thus that fire consumes it. Now as to the (symbolic) correspondence.

43. As to this they say, 'How does this Satarudriya of his attain to (conformity with) the year, and Agni? how does it correspond to the year, to

¹ Of objects numbering six, the seasons commonly occur, e.g. VI, 7, 1, 16.

² See paragraph 4. According to Kâty. Srautas. 18, 1, 6 both offering-utensils (the arka-leaf and the arka-stick) are thrown into the pit.

Agni?' Well, this Satarudriya includes three hundred and sixty (formulas); and (other) thirty, and thirty-five. Now, as to the three hundred and sixty which there are, so many are there days in the year: thereby it obtains the days of the year. And as to the thirty (formulas) which there are, they are the thirty nights of the month: thereby it obtains the nights of the month: thus it obtains both the days and nights of the year. And as to the thirty-five (formulas) there are, they are the thirteenth month¹, (Agni's) self,—the body (consists of) thirty (limbs²), the feet of two, the breath of two (in-breathing and off-breathing), and the head is the thirty-fifth: so much is the year. And in this way this Satarudriya of his attains to (conformity with) the year, Agni, and corresponds to the year, Agni. And, indeed, in the *Sândîla* fire-altar as many bricks with formulas attached to them are placed in the middle, for these bricks are indeed the same as these different Agnis (invoked in the Satarudriya); and thus these Agnis of his come to have oblations offered to them separately by means of the Satarudriya.

44. As to this they say, 'How does 'his Satarudriya of his attain to (conformity with) the Great

¹ As Prof. Weber, 'Die vedischen Nachrichten von den Nakshatra,' p. 298, points out, this passage points to a six years' period of intercalation, since, in counting 360 days in the year, the remainder accumulates in six years to an intercalary month of thirty-five days (or thirty-six according to *Sat. Br. X, 5, 4, 5*); and accordingly in *Vâg. S. XXX, 15*, and *Taitt. Âr. IV, 19, 1*, the names of the six years of such a period of intercalation are mentioned; while a five years' period and the names of the respective years are more frequently referred to.

² Viz. twenty fingers and toes, the upper and lower arms, the thighs and shanks, and the hands.

Litany¹?—how does it correspond to the Great Litany? Well, those twenty-five formulas which there are on both sides of the eighties², they are the twenty-five-fold body³; and where the body (of the altar-bird) is, that (includes) the head, and the wings and tail. And what eighties (of formulas) there are (in the Satarudriya), thereby indeed the (corresponding) eighties (of the Mahad uktham) are obtained, for by eighties the Great Litany is recited. And what there is (in the Satarudriya) after the eighties that is for him the same as what there, in the Great Litany, is after the eighties⁴; and in this way this Satarudriya

¹ For the mahad uktham, or Great Litany, recited on the Mahâvrata day, see p. 110, note 3. According to Sâyana, however, this does not refer to the Mahad uktham, or Great Litany, itself, but to its Stotra, the Mahâvrata-sâman (cf. note on X, 1, 1, 5), by the chanting of which it is preceded, and which, like the Great Litany itself, is represented as being composed of the different parts of Agni-Pragâpati's bird-shaped body. Now, that part of the chant which corresponds to the god's trunk (âman) is the only part of this Stotra which is chanted in the *Pañkavimsa-stoma*, or twenty-five-versed hymn-form, which, indeed, is the characteristic Stoma of the Mahâvrata day, all other Stotras of that rite being chanted in that form. It is, however, doubtful to me whether it is not rather the opening part of the Great Litany itself representing the trunk that is here referred to, and which, indeed, consists of twenty-five verses; cf. F. Max Müller, *Upanishads*, I, p. 183. Besides, it has always to be borne in mind that the particular arrangement of the Great Litany which the authors of the Brâhmana had before them, may have differed in some respects from those known to us.

² See p. 112, note 1.

³ That is, the body with its twenty-four limbs, viz. the two arms, two legs, and the twenty fingers and toes.

⁴ According to Sâyana, the *Pañkavimsa-stotra*, chanted after the Mahad uktham, is here referred to. See p. 111, note 1. Sâyana takes it to refer to the prose formulas at the end of the Sastra, which, he says, represent the mind (buddhi) of Pragâpati.

of his attains to (conformity with) the Great Litany; in this way it corresponds to the Great Litany.

SECOND BRĀHMANA.

1. He then sprinkles him (Agni-Rudra, the fire-altar). For the gods, having now appeased him by the Satarudriya, thereby appeased him still further; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer), now that he has appeased him by the Satarudriya, still further appease him thereby.

2. With water he sprinkles him¹,—water is a means of appeasing (soothing): he thus appeases him thereby. He sprinkles him all over; he thus appeases him all over. Thrice he sprinkles,—three-fold is Agni: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much he thus appeases him.

3. And, again, as to why he sprinkles him,—that Agni (the fire-altar), doubtless, is these worlds: by water he thus encompasses these worlds, by the ocean, indeed, he encompasses them. On every side (he sprinkles the altar): hence the ocean flows round these worlds on every side. From left to right (he sprinkles): hence the ocean flows round these worlds from left to right.

4. For safety from injury it is the Agnidh who sprinkles, for the Agnidh is the same as Agni, and no one injures his own self. From a stone (he sprinkles), for from the rock water springs forth;—from the arm-pit, for from the arm-pit water springs forth;—from the right arm-pit², for from the right arm-pit water springs forth.

¹ Or rather, he pours water on it (the altar).

² That is, from the lower (or hindmost) point where the right

5. [He sprinkles the stone, with, Vâg. S. XVII, 1], 'The food that is lying in the rock, in the mountain,'—for that food, water, is indeed contained in the rock, in the mountains;—'the drink that is gathered from waters, plants and trees,'—for from all that that drink is indeed gathered;—'that sap and food bring ye unto us, O Maruts, as bountiful givers!'—for the Maruts are the rulers of the rain. With 'In the rock is thy hunger,' he (after watering the altar) sets down (the pitcher on the stone): he thus lays hunger into the stone, whence the stone is not fit for eating. But hard also is the stone, and hard is hunger: he thus puts the hard along with the hard. With, 'In me thy food!' he takes up (the pitcher): he thereby takes up the food into his own self. Thus (he does) a second and a third time.

6. Having (finally) set down the pitcher, he perambulates thrice (the altar); for when (in sprinkling) he walks all round it, he, as it were, makes light of him (Agni-Rudra). He now makes amends to him, for (his own) safety.

7. And, again, as to why he perambulates it,—he then (in sprinkling the altar) goes after him¹ (Agni-Rudra): thereupon he now recovers his own self unto life, and so does he by that self of his obtain all vital power.

8. Thrice he perambulates it, for thrice he walks round it (whilst sprinkling): thus as many times as he walks round it, so many times does he perambulate it.

wing joins the body of the altar. He there places a stone, from which he begins the sprinkling of the altar.

¹ See IX, 1, 1, 33.

9. Having thereupon put that stone into the water-pitcher, they throw it in that (south-western) direction, for that is Nirṛiti's region: he thus consigns pain¹ to Nirṛiti's region.

10. For at that time, the gods, having appeased him by the Satarudriya and the water, thereby drove out his pain, his evil; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer) now, after appeasing him by the Satarudriya and the water, cast away his pain, his evil.

11. Outside the fire-altar he throws it; for this fire-altar indeed is the same as these (three) worlds: he thus puts pain outside these worlds;—outside the sacrificial ground (vedi); for the Vēdi is this (earth): he thus puts pain outside this earth.

12. Whilst standing at the right thigh of the Vēdi, with his face to the east, he throws it southwards, with, 'Let thy pain enter him whom we hate!' and thus its pain enters whomsoever he hates. He may say, 'Let thy pain enter so-and-so!' naming him whom he hates, and then he has no longer any hold upon him; but let him take no notice of this, for indicated of himself is he whom he who knows this hates. If it² should remain unbroken, let him bid (the Pratiprasthâtṛ) to break it, for only when it is broken, the pain enters him whom he hates. They return (to the altar) without looking back: they thus leave pain and evil behind without looking back to them.

13. Having returned, he makes the bricks his own

¹ The burning heat of the fire, and all physical and mental suffering.

² Viz. the stone, or the pot, according to others; cf. Kâty. Śrautas. XVIII, 2, 5-8. According to Prof. Weber the stone is meant to represent the hungry greed of the fire.

milch cows; for the gods, having now appeased him (Agni-Rudra) by the Satarudriya and the water, and having driven out his pain and evil, returned (to the altar) and made the bricks their own milch cows; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer) now, after appeasing him by the Satarudriya and the water, and casting off his pain and evil, return and make the bricks his own milch cows.

14. And some say, 'Let him make them his own whilst sitting, for sitting one milks the cow.' But let him rather make them his own standing; for that fire-altar is these worlds, and these worlds are, as it were, standing. And, moreover, one is stronger whilst standing.

15. [He does so], whilst standing (near the right thigh of the altar) with his face towards the north-east; in front stands that cow by the Sacrificer with her face towards the west (back), for from the right side they approach the cow which stands with its face towards the back (west).

16. And wherever he reaches (whilst stretching his arms over the altar), there he touches it and mutters this formula (*Vâg. S. XVII, 2*), 'Let these bricks be mine own milch cows, O Agni!' for Agni rules over this making of cows, whence he addresses Agni out of so many deities;—'One, and ten¹ and a hundred thousand millions, and a billion;'—for the one, to wit, one and ten, is the lowest quantity, and the other, to wit, a hundred thousand millions, and a billion, is the highest quantity; thus, having comprehended them by the

¹ The intervening numbers here omitted increase by multiples of ten.

lowest and the highest quantity, the gods made them their own milch cows; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer), having thus comprehended them by the lowest and the highest quantity, make them his own milch cows. Hence also he need not care to make many (cows) his own¹, for in yonder world that (Sacrificer), by means of the Brahman (holy writ), the Yagus, will make many (cows) his own. And in that he carries on (the numbers) uninterruptedly, thereby he carries on, without interruption, his objects of desire.

17. And as to why he makes the bricks his own milch cows,—this fire-altar is speech, for with speech it is built up; and when he says, ‘One, and ten, . . . and a hundred thousand millions, and a billion,’—‘one’ is speech, and a hundred thousand millions is speech, and a billion is speech: it is Speech herself that the gods thereby made their own milch cow; and in like manner does the Sacrificer thereby make Speech herself his own milch cow. And in that he carries on (the numbers) uninterruptedly, thereby it is Speech herself that he carries on:—‘Let these bricks be mine own milch cows, O Agni, hereafter in yonder world!’ He thereby makes them his own milch cows in this world, and he also makes them his own milch cows in yonder world; and thus they are profitable to him in both worlds, in this one and in the other.

18. [Vāg. S. XVII, 3], ‘The seasons ye are,’—for these (bricks) are indeed the seasons;—‘law-sustaining,’ that is, ‘truth-sustaining;’—‘be ye season-abiding, law-sustaining!’—for the bricks

¹ ? That is to say, he need not touch the altar more than once.

are the days and nights, and the days and nights indeed abide in the seasons;—‘fat-showering, honey-showering,’—he thereby makes them fat-showering and honey-showering for himself.

19. ‘The widely-shining by name,’—for the gods then called those bricks to them by their names, and in the same way in which they called them, they turned unto them; but the ‘space-fillers’ alone stood with averted faces discharging water, having no names applied to them. They called them by the name ‘the widely-shining,’ and they turned unto them. Hence, each time he has laid down ten bricks, he addresses them with the ‘space-filling¹ (verse)’ : he thereby makes them widely-shining (virâg), for the Virâg (metre) consists of ten syllables :—‘wish-milking, never-failing,’—he thereby makes them wish-milking and never-failing.

20. He then draws a frog, a lotus-flower, and a bamboo-shoot across (the central part of the altar). For the gods having now appeased him by the Satarudriya and the water, and having driven out his pain and evil, thereby still further appeased him; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer), now that he has appeased him by the Satarudriya and the water, and driven out his pain and evil, still further appease him thereby. In every direction he draws them : he thus appeases him everywhere.

21. And, again, as to why he draws them across. Now, in the beginning, when the *Rîshis*, the vital airs, made up that Agni², they sprinkled him with water : that water dripped off and became the frogs.

¹ That is with the verse Vâg. S. XII, 54, beginning ‘Lokam *prîna*,’ ‘Fill thou the space;’ see part iii, p. 153 note.

² See VI, 1, 1, 1-5.

22. They (the waters) said to Pragâpati, 'Whatever moisture¹ we had, has gone down.' He said, 'This tree shall know it!'—he shall know (vettu), he shall taste it (*sam* vettu)—that one, indeed, they mystically call 'vetasa' (bamboo), for the gods love the mystic. And because they said, 'Down (avâk) has gone our moisture (ka),' they became avâkkâs;— 'avâkkâs,' they mystically call 'avakâs (lotuses),' for the gods love the mystic. These, then, are those three kinds of water, to wit, the frog, the lotus-flower, and the bamboo-shoot: by means of these three kinds of water he appeases him.

23. And, again, why he draws them across it;—when he (Agni, the fire-altar) is built up, he is being born, and he is born for every kind of food; and these are every kind of food, to wit, the frog, the lotus-flower, and the bamboo-shoot, for these, indeed, are animals, water, and trees: with all this food he gratifies him.

24. With the frog, on the part of animals, whence, of animals, the frog is the one affording least subsistence, for he is used up;—with the lotus-flower, on the part of water, whence of the kinds of water (plants), lotus-flowers are those affording least subsistence, for they are used up;—and with the bamboo-shoot, on the part of trees; whence, of trees, the bamboo is the one affording least subsistence, for it is used up.

25. Having tied them to a cane, he, in the first place, draws them eastwards along the right (south) part of the (body of the) altar inside the enclosing-

¹ Thus, or essence (*rasa*), according to Sâyana; cf. X, 6, 5, 1. The word 'ka' has, however, also the meaning 'joy.'

stones, with (Vâg. S. XVII, 4), 'With the lotus-flower of the ocean we encompass thee, O Agni: be thou bright and propitious unto us!' that is, 'With the waters of the ocean we appease thee.'

26. Then northwards along the hind part (of the altar), with (Vâg. S. XVII, 5), 'With an outer vesture of cold we encompass thee, O Agni: be thou bright and propitious unto us!'—that part of the cold which is frozen hard is an outer vesture of cold: thus, 'By the frozen part of cold we appease thee!'

27. Then eastwards along the left (north) part, with (Vâg. S. XVII, 6), 'Upon the earth, into the reed, into the rivers descend thou, O Agni, thou art the bile¹ of waters: with them, come thou, O she-frog, and make the sacrifice bright-coloured and propitious for us!' as the text, so the meaning.

28. Then southwards along the forepart, with (Vâg. S. XVII, 7), 'Thou art the receptacle of waters, the abode of the ocean: let thy darts burn others than us! unto us be thou bright and propitious!' as the text, so the meaning. He first draws them thus², then thus, then thus, then thus: that is from left to right, for so it is with the gods.

29. Over the body (of the altar) he draws them

¹ That is, 'the heat' which is considered the chief property of the bilious humour.

² The procedure in this case is an exact counterpart of the ploughing of the altar-site, for which see VII, 2, 2, 8-12, with notes. Hence also the verbs expressive of the two actions are closely analogous, viz. *vikrîshati* and *vikarshati*.

first, for of (the bird, or Agni) that is born the body is born first, then the right wing, then the tail, then the left wing: that is from left to right, for so it is with the gods.

30. Over the wings and tail he draws them in the direction of the body (self): he thus lays calmness into his own self;—from the further end (he draws) hitherwards: he thus lays calmness into his own self from the further end hitherwards. The right wing, with (Vâg. S. XVII, 8), 'O bright Agni, with thy light, (with thy dainty tongue, O god, bring hither the gods, and worship them)!' The tail, with (Vâg. S. XVII, 9), 'O bright and shining Agni, (bring hither the gods to our sacrifice and our offering)!' The left wing, with (Vâg. S. XVII, 10), 'He who with bright and glittering light (shineth upon the earth, as the dawns with their glow, who, the ever young, speeding, as in the race, in the battle, of the steed, thirsteth not in the heat).' 'Bright,' he says each time, for whatever is kindly and propitious is bright: he thus propitiates him thereby.

31. With seven (formulas) he draws them across,—the altar consists of seven layers, and seven seasons are a year, and Agni is the year: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much he thus crosses him. Having thrown the cane on the heap of rubbish;—

32. [The Adhvaryu] then sings hymns round it (the altar);—for therein that whole Agni is completed: and the gods laid into him that highest form, immortality; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer) thereby lay into him that highest form, immortality. Sâman-hymns are (used), for sâmans are vital airs.

and the vital airs are immortality : immortality, that highest form, he thus lays into him. On every side he sings around it : everywhere he thus lays immortality, that highest form, into him.

33. And, again, as to why he sings sâman-hymns round about it;—the gods then desired, ‘Let us make this body of ours boneless and immortal.’ They spake, ‘Think ye upon this, how we may make this body of ours boneless and immortal!’ They spake, ‘Meditate (*ñit*) ye!’ whereby indeed they meant to say, ‘Seek ye a layer (*ñiti*)! seek ye how we may make this body of ours boneless and immortal!’

34. Whilst meditating, they saw those sâman-hymns, and sang them round about it, and by means of them they made that body of theirs boneless and immortal; and in like manner does the Sacrificer, when he sings the sâman-hymns round about it, make that body of his boneless and immortal. On every side he sings : everywhere he thus makes that body of his boneless and immortal. Standing he sings, for these worlds stand, as it were; and whilst standing one doubtless is stronger. He sings, after uttering (the syllable) ‘*him*,’ for therein the sâman-hymn becomes whole and complete.

35. He first sings the Gâyatra hymn¹, for the Gâyatrî metre is Agni : he thus makes Agni his

¹ The Gâyatra-sâman is the hymn-tune composed on the verse called ‘the Gâyatrî,’ *par excellence*, or ‘Sâvitrî’ (tat savitur varenyam, Rig-veda III, 62, 10), which plays an important part in the religious life of the Hindu. The verse, as figured for chanting, is given, Sâma-v. Calc. ed. vol. v, p. 601. On the present occasion, according to Lâty. Sr. I, 5 11, a different text, viz. Sâma-v. II, 8, 14 (Rig-veda IX, 66, 19, agna âvûmshi pavase), is to be sung to this tune.

head, and that head of his (or of him, Agni) he thus makes boneless and immortal.

36. The Rathantara¹ (hymn he sings) at the right wing; for the Rathantara is this (earth), and this (earth), doubtless, is the most essential (rasatama) of these worlds, for it is in her that all these essences (rasa) are contained, and 'rasantama,' indeed, they call mystically, 'rathantara,' for the gods love the mystic: he thus makes this (earth) his right wing, and that right wing of his he thus makes boneless and immortal.

37. The Bṛihat¹ (hymn he sings) at the left wing; the Bṛihat (great), doubtless, is the sky, for the sky is the greatest (of worlds): he thus makes the sky his (Agni's) left wing, and that left wing of his he thus makes boneless and immortal.

38. The Vāmadevya¹ (hymn he sings) on the body (of the altar); for the Vāmadevya is the breath, and the breath is air (vāyu, the wind), and he, Vāyu, doubtless, is the self (body) of all the gods: he thus makes the air (wind) his body, and that body of his he thus makes boneless and immortal.

39. The Yagñâyagñīya¹ (hymn he sings) near the tail;—the Yagñâyagñīya, doubtless, is the moon; for whenever a sacrifice becomes completed², the essence of its oblations goes up to him (the moon);

¹ The Rathantara, Bṛihat, Vāmadevya, and Yagñâyagñīya tunes are apparently to be sung here on their original texts (Sâma-v. II, 30, 31, abhi tvâ sūra nonumaḥ; II, 159, 160, tvâm id dhi havâmahe; II, 32, 33, kayâ naḥ kītra â bhuvat; and II, 53, 54, yagñâ-yagñâ vo agnaye), though hardly in their elaborate setting, as performed in chanting.

² It should be remembered that the chanting of the Yagñâyagñīya (or Agnish/oma)-sâman marks the completion (samsthâ) of the ordinary (Agnish/oma) Soma-sacrifice.

and inasmuch as sacrifice after sacrifice (*yagñā*) goes up to him, the moon is the *Yagñāyagñīya* : he thus makes the moon his (Agni's) tail, and that tail of his he thus makes boneless and immortal.

40. He then sings the heart of *Pragâpati*¹;—the heart assuredly is yonder sun, for he (the sun) is smooth, and the heart is smooth ; he is round, and the heart is round. On the body (of the altar) he sings, for the heart is in the body ;—at the arm-pit², for the heart is in (the vicinity of) the armpit ;—

¹ The *Pragâpati-hridaya*, or *Pragâpater hridayam*, as figured for chanting, is given, *Sâma-v. Calc. ed. vol. ii, p. 499*. It consists of the words, *imâh pragâh pragâpate(r) hridayam pragârûpam agîgane*, with inserted stobhas and modulations. It is followed by a simpler form, which is perhaps the one used on the present occasion.

² Viz. on the place where the right wing joins the body of the altar. According to other authorities, the *Syaita* hymn-tune is likewise to be sung near the left arm-pit (or, according to *Sândilya*, at the place where the *Adhvaryu* mounts the altar). For other variations, see *Weber, Ind. Stud. XIII, p. 276*. I do not think that the ritual of the *White Yagus*, in omitting the left arm-pit, shows any gap or inconsistency, since the right arm-pit is marked out, not for any bodily parallelism, but for the simple reason that it is supposed to indicate the position of the heart. Whilst all the other places on which hymns are sung are essential parts of the bird *Agni*, the arm-pit is not an essential part, but is merely indicative of the central organ of the body. *Lâty. I, 5, 11 seqq.* supplies the following directions, apparently implying a somewhat different order of procedure from that followed in our text : He passes along the south, and whilst standing (east of the altar) with his face towards the west, he sings the *Gâyatra* at the head. Returning, he sings the *Rathan-tarâ* at the right wing. Going round behind, he sings the *Brîhat* at the left wing. Going back, and standing behind the tail, with his face towards the east, he sings the *Yagñāyagñīya*. The *Vâmadevya* he sings at the right, and the *Pragâpati-hridaya* at the left, arm-pit. Then follow different views held by different teachers.—With this ceremony, by which homage is paid to the different parts of *Agni-Pragâpati's* body, compare the similar, but more elaborate, ceremony of the *Parimâdâh* at the *Mahâvrata*, *X, 1, 2, 9* with note.

at the right armpit, for the heart is nearer thereto¹; he thus makes the sun his (Agni's) heart, and that heart of his he thus makes boneless and immortal.

41. He sings about offspring (pragâ) and Pragâpati (the lord of creatures and procreation);—when he sings about offspring, he lays the heart into offspring; and when he sings about Pragâpati, he lays the heart into Agni.

42. And, again, as to why he sings about offspring and Pragâpati;—this Agni, doubtless, is both offspring and the lord of offspring, and hence, when he sings about Agni, he lays the heart both into the offspring and into the lord of offspring.

43. These (hymns) are the immortal bricks; he lays them down last (highest) of all:—he thereby makes immortality the highest thing of all this (universe), and hence immortality is the highest thing of all this (universe). Let none other but the Adhvaryu² sing; for these (hymns) are bricks, and he (Agni, the fire-altar) would be built up in the wrong way³, were any other than the Adhvaryu to sing.

SECOND ADHYĀYA. FIRST BRĀHMANA.

DAY OF PREPARATION FOR SOMA-SACRIFICE.

1. On the day of preparation, early in the morning, when the sun has risen, he releases his speech.

¹ That is, by taking the auricles as parts of the heart.

² According to Lāty. I, 5, 1 seq., it is the Prastotri who sings these sāmans. A similar conflict of competence in this respect is referred to not only in regard to detached sāmans (cf. Kāty. IV, 9, 6-9), but even in regard to such solemn performances as the chanting of the Mahāvratā-sāman (cf. note on X, 1, 1, 5).

³ Vi-ḥita, in this sense, appears to be a ἀπαξ λεγόμενον. Sâyana seems to have read vigita (parābhūta, defeated) instead.

Having released his speech, he takes clarified butter, in five ladlings, and throws five chips of gold thereon. Then these three (materials), sour curds, honey and ghee, are poured together, either into a dish, or a pot with a wide mouth; and he puts a handful of sacrificial grass thereon.

2. He then mounts the fire-altar, with (Vâg. S. XVII, 11), 'Homage be to thy heat, thy fire!¹ homage be to thy flame!'—for that Agni has now been completely restored, and he now is equal to injuring whomever he might wish to injure; and whomever he injures, he injures either by his heat, or by his fire, or by his flame; in this way he does not injure him thereby (etai²);—'Let thy darts burn others than us! unto us be thou bright and propitious!' as the text, so the sense.

3. Having mounted the altar, he makes the libation of fivefold-taken ghee on the naturally-perforated (brick): the significance of this has been explained².

4. On the naturally-perforated (brick) he makes the libation—the naturally-perforated one is the breath: into (the channel of) the breath he thus puts food.

5. And, again, as to why he offers on the naturally-perforated one;—this (brick) is an uttara-vedi (high-altar) of Agni (the fire-altar); and that former libation which he makes³ belongs to the

¹ Or, 'Homage be to thy burning (consuming) fire!' as Mahîdhara takes 'harase so'kîshe,' and perhaps also the Brâhmana, though 'etai²,' used in reference to Agni's weapons, would rather seem to indicate a plurality of them.

² See VII, 2, 3, 4; VIII, 6, 3, 15.

³ See III, 5, 2, 9-11; the libation of ghee there offered on the

Soma-sacrifice, but this one belongs to the fire-altar; this he now offers.

6. On that (former) occasion he makes the libation whilst looking at the gold; for distinct is what one sees, and distinct was that high-altar; and thrown down¹, indeed, are (the gold chips) on this occasion, and indistinct is what is thrown down, and indistinct is this high-altar.

7. With the Svāhā-call he makes the libation on that (high-altar), for distinct (manifest) is the Svāhā, and distinct is that high-altar; but with the *Veṭ*-call (he offers) on this (brick), for indistinct is the *Veṭ*-call, and indistinct is this high-altar. With ghee (they offer), for with ghee they offer on the high-altar;—with fivefold-taken (ghee), for with fivefold-taken (ghee) they offer on the high-altar;—by turns (he makes the libations), for by turns² they make the libations on the high-altar.

8. [He offers, with, Vâg. S. XVII, 12, a-c resp.], 'To the man-seated, *veṭ*!'—the man-seated one, doubtless, is the breath, and men mean human beings: he thereby gratifies that fire (or Agni), the breath, which is in human beings;—'To the water-seated, *veṭ*!'—he thereby gratifies the fire which is in the waters;—'To the barhis-seated, *veṭ*!'—he

uttara-vedi being preparatory to the leading forward of the fire to the high-altar.

¹ Each time he has poured out some of the ghee on one of the corners, or in the centre, of the stone; he throws one of the chips of gold thereon, without looking at it.

² That libation was made crosswise—first on the right shoulder, then on the left thigh, then on the right thigh, then on the left shoulder, and finally in the centre, of the (navel of the) high-altar. In the same way he offers crosswise on the *svayamâtṛinnâ* brick.

thereby gratifies the fire which is in plants¹;—‘To the wood-seated, *vet!*’—he thereby gratifies the fire which is in trees;—‘To the heaven-winning, *vet!*’—the heaven-winning one is this Agni (*ṛitya*): it is this Agni he thereby gratifies.

9. And as to why he says, ‘To the man-seated, *vet!* To the water-seated, *vet!*’ &c., these are names of this Agni: these names he thereby pleases. By means of the oblation he makes them a deity: for whatever deity the oblation is prepared, that deity (they are), not that deity for whom it is not prepared. And, in calling them by their names, he also thereby places those fires along with this fire.

10. These are five oblations he offers,—the fire-altar consists of five layers, the year of five seasons, and Agni is the year: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much food he thus gratifies him.

11. He then sprinkles him (Agni, the fire-altar) with the sour curds, honey and ghee; when he is built up, he is born, and he is born for every (kind of) food; and these, to wit, sour curds, honey and ghee, are every (kind of) food: with every (kind of) food he thus gratifies him. Everywhere (he sprinkles the altar): everywhere he thus gratifies him with every (kind of) food.

12. And, again, as to why he sprinkles him;—here that Agni has been built up complete: on him the gods now bestowed the highest (or last) form; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer) now bestow on him the highest (or last) form; but form means

¹ Inasmuch as ‘*barhis*’ is the sacrificial grass spread over the *vedi*, or altar-ground.

food, and these, to wit, sour curds, honey and ghee, are the most excellent kind of food: this, the most excellent form he thus bestows upon him as his highest (property). Everywhere he sprinkles, even outside the enclosing-stones; everywhere he thus bestows on him the highest form;—by means of sacrificial grass-stalks (he sprinkles), for they are pure and meet for sacrifice; by means of their tops (he sprinkles), for the top (is sacred) to the gods.

13. And, again, as to why he sprinkles them;—of old, when the *Rīshis*, the vital airs, joined him together, they made that 'sagûrabdīya' (oblation)¹ his special fore-share, and, when he had been built up, they made this (sprinkling) his after-share: thus, in sprinkling him, he gratifies those *Rīshis*, the vital airs, who, when he (Agni) had been built up, made this his after-share. With sour curds, honey and ghee (he sprinkles): the significance of this has been explained.

14. [He sprinkles, with, *Vāg. S. XVII, 13, 14*], 'The gods of the gods, the worshipful of the worshipful,'—for they (the vital airs) are indeed the gods of (among) the gods, and the worshipful of the worshipful;—'who draw nigh unto the year-long share,' for they do indeed draw near to this their year-long share;—'not eaters of oblations, —at this offering of sacrificial food,'—for the vital airs, indeed, are not eaters of oblations;—'may themselves drink of the honey and the ghee!'

¹ That is, the oblation (made on the bunch of sacrificial grass placed in the centre of the freshly ploughed altar-site, where the furrows meet) with the formula (*Vāg. S. XII, 74*) beginning 'sagûr abdo.' See VII, 2, 3, 8.

that is, 'should themselves drink of this honey and ghee.'

15. 'The gods who attained godhead over the gods,'—for these gods have indeed attained a divine state over the gods;—'who are the fore-runners of this holy work,'—the holy work is this fire-altar (and sacrifice), and they are the fore-runners thereof;—'without whom no dwelling-place becometh pure;' for without the vital airs no dwelling-place becomes pure¹;—'they are not on the backs of the sky and the earth,'—that is, 'they are neither in the sky nor on earth: whatever breathes therein they are.'

16. With two (verses) he sprinkles,—two-footed is the Sacrificer, and the Sacrificer is Agni: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much he thus sprinkles him.

17. He then descends again (from the altar), with (Vâg. S. XVII, 15), 'Givers of in-breathing, givers of off-breathing,'—for this Agni who has been built up is all these breathings; were he not to utter at this time this (declaration of) self-surrender, then that (Agni) would possess himself of those breathings of his (the Sacrificer's); but now that he gives utterance to this self-surrender, that (Agni) does not possess himself of those breathings of his;—'Givers of in-breathing, givers of off-breathing, givers of through-breathing, givers of lustre, givers of room,'—he thereby says, 'A giver of this thou art to me,'—'let thy darts burn

¹ It is doubtful in what sense the author understands this part of the verse. Mahidhara takes it to mean, 'without whom no body moves.'

others than us! unto us be thou bright and propitious!'—as the text, so the meaning.

18. Having returned (to the hall-fire) he proceeds with the (forenoon performance of the) Pravargya¹ and Upasad¹; and having performed the Pravargya and Upasad, he hands to him (the Sacrificer) the fast-food or semi-fast-food. He then (proceeds) with the (afternoon performance of the) Pravargya and Upasad, and having obtained the object for which he puts the (Pravargya-) cauldron on the fire, he sets out (the apparatus of) the Pravargya.

19. Let him set it out on an island; for, when heated, that (cauldron) is suffering pain; and were he to set it out on this (earth) its pain would enter this (earth); and were he to set it out on water, its pain would enter the water; but when he sets it out on an island, then it does not injure either the water or this (earth): in that he does not throw it into the water, it does not injure the water; and in that the water goes all round it—water being a means of soothing—it does not injure this earth;—let him therefore set it out on an island.

20. But let him rather set it out on the fire-altar;—for that fire-altar is these worlds, and the enclosing-stones are the waters;—so that when he sets it out on the fire-altar, he indeed sets it out on an island.

21. And, again, as to why he sets it out on the fire-altar;—that fire-altar is these worlds, and those Pravargya (vessels) are Agni (fire), Vāyu (wind), and Āditya (sun): hence, were he to set them out in any other place than the fire-altar, he would place those gods outside these worlds; but in that he sets them

¹ For the Pravargya, see part i, p. 44 note; and the Upasads, part ii, p. 104 seq.

out on the fire-altar, he places those gods in these worlds.

22. And, again, as to why he sets it out on the fire-altar,—the Pravargya is the head of the sacrifice, and this built-up fire-altar is the body: hence were he to set it out in any other place than the fire-altar, he would place that head away from that (body), but in that he sets it out on the fire-altar, he, having put together that body of him (Agni), restores the head to it.

23. The first Pravargya (vessel) he sets out close to the naturally-perforated (brick);—the naturally-perforated one is the breath, and the Pravargya is the head, and this built-up Agni is the body: he thus connects and puts together the head and the body by means of (the channel of) the breath. Having set out the Pravargya as is the way of its setting out,—

2. He then takes (ghee) in sixteen ladlings¹,—Pragâpati consists of sixteen parts, and Pragâpati is Agni: he thus regales him with food proportionate to his body; and the food which is proportionate to the body satisfies and does no injury; but that which is excessive does injury, and that which is too little does not satisfy. He takes (the oblations) in the same offering-ladle, for one and the same (Agni) is he whom he regales therewith. With two (verses) addressed to Visvakarman he offers; for this Agni is Visvakarman (the all-worker): it is him he thereby gratifies. Three oblations he offers,—threefold is Agni: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much food he thus regales him.

3. He then puts on the pieces of firewood: this is as if, after regaling some one, one were to attend upon him. They are of udumbara (*ficus glomerata*) wood; for the Udumbara is food and sap: with food and sap he thus regales him. They are fresh (green), for that part of trees which is fresh is uninjured and living: he thus regales him with what is uninjured and living in trees. They are soaked in ghee; for ghee is sacred to Agni: with his own portion, with his own sap he thus regales him. They remain the whole night in it, for there they become imbued with sap. Three pieces of wood he puts on,—threefold is Agni: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much food he thus regales him.

4. And, again, as to why he offers those oblations;—now that he (Agni) was about to go forward,

¹ That is, he ladles sixteen sruva-spoonfuls of ghee into the sruvâ or offering-ladle.

the gods restored (recruited) him beforehand with food, with these oblations; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer), now that he (Agni) is about to go forward, restore him beforehand with food, with these oblations.

5. He takes (ghee) in five ladlings, for fivefold divided is that vital air in the head,—the mind, speech, the breath, the eye, and the ear,—he thus lays that fivefold divided vital air into this head. [He offers it, with, Vâg. S. XVII, 16], 'Agni, with sharp flame, (may destroy every demon! Agni gaineth wealth for us)' thus with a (verse) containing (the word) 'sharp': he therewith sharpens his head so as to become sharp.

6. He then takes (ghee) in sixteen ladlings: eight vital airs, and eight limbs¹,—this (the symbolical) amount. He takes it in the same spoon, for, indeed, the vital airs and the limbs are in the same body. Separately² he offers: he thereby makes a distinction between the vital airs and the limbs. With two (verses) addressed to Visvakarman he offers: Visvakarman is this Agni, it is him he thus puts together. Three oblations he offers,—threefold is Agni: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much food he thus restores him. With seventeen verses (he offers)³,—Pragâpati is seventeenfold, and Pragâpati is Agni: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much he thus restores him.

¹ Viz. the upper and fore-arms, the thighs and legs.

² That is, he offers this ladleful (obtained by sixteen ladlings with the dipping-spoon) in two separate libations (âhuti) or, according to Kâty., in two halves.

³ Viz. Vâg. S. XVII, 17-32 (sixteen verses, eight for each oblation) and verse 16 (given above) used with the oblation of five ladlings.

With (ghee) taken in twenty-one ladlings (he offers the two oblations),—there are twelve months, five seasons, these three worlds, and yonder sun as the twenty-first: this is the (symbolical) amount (or, correspondence).

7. And, again, as to why he puts the pieces of firewood on; the gods having set him up wholly and completely, now regaled him with this food, these pieces of firewood; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer), now that he has set him up wholly and completely, regale him with this food, these pieces of firewood. They are of udumbara wood, and fresh, and remain for a whole night (being) soaked in ghee: the significance of this has been explained. [He puts them on, with, Vâg. S. XVII, 50-52], 'Upwards lead thou him, O Agni!... Forward lead thou him, O Indra!... In whose house we make offering...', as the text, so the meaning. Three pieces of firewood he puts on,—threefold is Agni: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much food he thus regales him. Three oblations he offers,—that makes six: the significance of this has been explained.

THIRD BRĀHMANA.

1. He (the Adhvaryu) then gives orders (to his assistant, the Pratiprasthâtrî), 'Lift the log¹! hold up the underlayer!'—[To the Hotrî], 'Recite for

¹ Viz. a burning piece of wood taken from the Gârhapatya hearth to serve as the new Âhavanîya on the great fire-altar. The Gârhapatya fire; it will be remembered, was the Ukhyā Agni, or the sacred fire carried in a pan (ukhâ) by the Sacrificer during his time of initiation (dikshâ) lasting for a year (or some other definite period), till, at the end of that period, at the beginning of the Prâyanîya, or opening-offering, it was transferred from the pan to the newly-built Gârhapatya hearth.

Agni as he is taken forward!—‘Agnīdh, follow up with the single sword (-line)!—‘Brahman, mutter the Apratiratha (hymn)!’

2. For at that time, as the gods were about to come up in order to perform this sacrifice, the Asuras, the mischievous fiends, tried to smite them from the south, saying, ‘Ye shall not sacrifice! ye shall not perform the sacrifice!’

3. The gods said to Indra, ‘Thou art the highest and mightiest, and strongest of us: do thou hold those fiends in check!’—‘Let the Brahman (n.) be my ally!’ he said.—‘So be it!’ They made *Bṛihaspati* his ally, for *Bṛihaspati* is the Brahman (the priesthood); and having had the Asuras, the mischievous fiends, chased away in the south by *Bṛihaspati* and Indra, they spread this sacrifice in a place free from danger and devilry.

4. Now what the gods did then, that is done on this occasion. Those fiends, it is true, have now been chased away by the gods themselves, but when he does this, he does so thinking, ‘I will do what the gods did;’ and having had the Asuras, the mischievous fiends, chased away in the south by Indra and *Bṛihaspati*, he performs this sacrifice in a place free from danger and devilry.

5. As to that Indra, he is that Apratiratha (irresistible hymn); and as to that *Bṛihaspati*, he is the Brahman (priest): thus, when the Brahman mutters the Apratiratha (hymn) he (the Sacrificer), having the Asuras, the mischievous fiends, chased away in the south, by Indra and *Bṛihaspati*, performs this sacrifice in a place free from danger and devilry. This is why the Brahman mutters the Apratiratha (hymn, Vāg. S. XVII, 33-44; *Rīgv.* S. X, 103, 1-12).

6. 'The swift (Indra), sharpening (his weapon), like a terrible bull,'—these are twelve suitable (verses) relating to Indra,—a year consists of twelve months, and Agni (the fire-altar) is the year: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, by so much he drives off the Asuras, the mischievous fiends, in the south. With trishṭubh¹ (verses he does so),—the Trishṭubh is the thunderbolt: by the thunderbolt he thus drives off the Asuras, the mischievous fiends, in the south. They amount to twenty-two Gâyatrîs¹, and thus they relate to Agni, for this is Agni's performance.

7. He then takes him up (in the form of a burning piece of firewood), with [Vâg. S. XVII, 53], 'Upwards may the All-gods bear thee, O Agni, by their thoughts!...' the meaning of this has been explained².

8. They then go forward, with (Vâg. S. XVII, 54-58), 'May the divine regions, the goddesses, protect the sacrifice!'—The gods and the Asuras, both of them sprung from Pragâpati, were contending for the regions, and the gods wrested the regions from the Asuras; and in like manner does the Sacrificer now wrest the regions from his hateful rival. 'Divine' he says, and thereby makes them divine for himself;—'may the goddesses protect the sacrifice,' that is, 'may the goddesses protect this sacrifice!'—'keeping off want and ill-will,'—want is hunger: thus, 'keeping off hunger;'—'grant-

¹ The trishṭubh verse consists of 4×11 syllables, hence the twelve verses of together 528 syllables. The gâyatrî verse, on the other hand, consists of 3×8 syllables; and twenty-two such verses would thus consist of altogether 528 syllables.

² Viz. VI, 8, 1, 7.

ing to the lord of the sacrifice a share in wealth-affluence,' that is, 'granting to the lord of the sacrifice a share in wealth and in affluence;' 'may the sacrifice be founded on wealth-affluence!'—that is, 'may the sacrifice be founded on wealth and affluence!'

9. 'Glorifying on the kindled fire,'—the glorifying one is the Sacrificer;—'the hymn-winged,'—for hymns are his wings;—'taken,'—that is, 'held;'—'praiseworthy,'—that is, 'worthy of worship;'—'(when) they sacrificed, encircling the heated cauldron,'—for they did sacrifice, whilst encircling the heated (Pravargya) cauldron; 'when the gods offered the sacrifice with food,'—for the gods did offer this sacrifice with food.

10. 'To the divine, fostering upholder,'—for he, Agni, is the divine upholder, the most fostering;—'he, the approacher of gods, the well-disposed, of a hundred draughts,'—for he is indeed an approacher of the gods, and well-disposed, and possessed of a hundred draughts;—'encircling, the gods drew nigh unto the sacrifice,'—for encircling him (Agni), the gods drew nigh to the sacrifice;—'the gods stood ready to perform the cult unto the gods,'—the cult, doubtless, is the sacrifice, thus, 'the gods stood ready to perform the sacrifice to the gods.'

11. 'The welcome oblation slaughtered by the slaughterer¹ to sacrifice,'—that is, 'wished-for, much wished-for;'—'where the fourth sacrifice goeth to the offering,'—the Adhvaryu first mutters the formulas, the Hotri afterwards recites

¹ Mahîdhara takes 'samitâ' to stand for 'samitrâ.'

the verses, the Brahman mutters the Apratiratha (hymn) on the south side; this (set of verses), then, is the fourth sacrifice;—‘may the prayers, the blessings favour us!’—that is, ‘may both prayers and blessings favour us!’

12. ‘The sun-rayed, golden-haired Savitri ever lifted up² the light in front,’—this Agni, doubtless, is yonder sun, and that sun-rayed, golden-haired Savitri in front ever lifts up that light;—‘at his behest Pûshan goeth, the wise,’—Pûshan, doubtless, means cattle, and they indeed start forth at his (Agni-Sûrya’s) behest;—‘viewing all beings as their guardian,’—for he indeed views everything here, and he is the protector of all this world.

13. Now, the gods thereby (viz. by these five verses) wrested from the Asuras the five regions which are on this side of yonder sun, and then ascended them; and so does the Sacrificer now wrest them from his hateful rival, and then ascend them. And by means of them the gods reached this place, and in like manner does this (Sacrificer) by means of them reach this place³.

14. He then sets up a variegated stone;—the

¹ ? Or, ‘May they favour our prayers and blessings!’ These verses are rather enigmatical.

² The author of the Brâhmana connects ‘udayâm’ with ‘yam,’ Mahîdhara with ‘yâ’ (udayân for udayât).

³ ? Or, reach *that* place; Sâyana, in the first instance, takes it to mean ‘as far as this place’ (from beyond the sun down to the end of the air); but in the second instance, he takes it as referring to the particular spot on the sacrificial ground near which this part of the ceremonial is performed, viz. the Âgnîdhra’s fire-shed (as representing the air), south of which the Adhvaryu lays down a variegated stone close to the ‘spine.’

variegated stone, doubtless, is yonder sun : it is thus yonder sun that is set up. It is variegated, for by means of its rays that disk is variegated. He sets it up between the Âhavanīya and the Gârhapatya ; for the Gârhapatya is this (terrestrial) world, and the Âhavanīya is the sky : he thus places him (the sun) between these two worlds, whence he shines between these two worlds.

15. On the Âgnīdhra range¹ (he places it), for the Âgnīdhra's fire-shed is the air ; he thus places it in the air, whence that (sun) has the air for his seat. Halfway (between the two fires he places it) ; for that (sun) is halfway from this (earth).

16. This (stone) is the breath,—he thus puts the breath into the body ; and it is the vital power,—he thus puts vital power into the body ; it is food, for it is vital power, and vital power is indeed food. It is a stone, for a stone is firm : he thus makes the vital power firm. It is variegated, for food is variegated (varied).

17. He sets it up (with, Vâg. S. XVII, 59, 60), 'Measuring he keeps in the middle of the sky,'—for that (sun) indeed keeps measuring in the middle of the sky ;—'filling the two worlds and the air,' for even in rising he fills these (three) worlds ;—'he scans the all-reaching, the butter-reaching,'—he thereby means the offering-ladles and the offering-grounds ;—'between the front and back lights,'—that is, between this world and that one ; or that (fire-altar) which is here at this moment being built, and that which was there built at first.

¹ That is, where the Âgnīdhra shed and hearth will afterwards have to be erected (see IX, 4, 3, 5-6) on the northern edge of the Vedi, midway between the Gârhapatya and Âhavanīya fire-places.

18. 'The showering ocean, the ruddy bird,'—for he (the sun) is indeed a showering ocean, and a ruddy bird,—'hath entered the seat of his easterly father,'—for he indeed enters that seat of his easterly¹ father;—'the many-hued rock set up in the middle of the sky,'—for that variegated stone is indeed set up in the middle of the sky;—'hath traversed and guardeth the two ends of the atmosphere;'—for in traversing he guards the ends of these worlds.

19. With two (verses) he sets it up;—two-footed is the Sacrificer, and the Sacrificer is Agni : as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much he thus sets him (the sun, Agni) up. With trishṭubh (verses he sets him up),—for that (sun) is related to the Trishṭubh. He does not 'settle' (the stone), for unsettled is that (sun); nor does he pronounce the Sûdadahas over it;—the Sûdadahas means the breath, and that (sun) is the breath, and why should he put breath into (or on) the breath? Having deposited it in such a way that it is not lost;—

20. They now approach (the fire-altar, with, Vâg. S. XVII, 61-64), 'They all have magnified Indra,'—the meaning of this has been explained². 'Let the god-invoking sacrifice lead hither, let the favour-invoking sacrifice lead hither (the gods)!'—both god-invoking and favour-invoking indeed is the sacrifice;—'let Agni, the god, make offering and lead hither the gods!' that is, 'may

¹ Thus Mahîdhara here takes 'pûrva,' and apparently also the author of the Brâhmaza; the easterly father being the Âhavanîya, and hence the sky. In the formula it would rather seem to mean 'former, old.'

² See VIII, 7, 3, 7.

Agni, the god, both make offering and bring hither the gods!'

21. 'The creation of strength hath upheaved me with upheaval, and Indra hath laid low mine enemies by subdual,'—as the text, so the meaning.

22. 'May the gods advance the Brahman both by upheaval and subdual; and may Indra and Agni scatter asunder mine enemies!'—as the text, so the meaning.

23. Now, the gods thereby (viz. by these four verses) wrested from the Asuras the four regions which are above yonder sun, and then ascended them; and in like manner does the Sacrificer thereby wrest them from his hateful enemy, and then ascend them. And by means of them the gods then attained to that place; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer) by means of them attain thither.

24. They then mount the fire-altar, with (Vâg. S. XVII, 65-69), 'By Agni ascend ye to the firmament!'—the firmament, doubtless, is the heavenly world: thus, 'by means of this Agni (fire-altar) ascend ye to that heavenly world!'—'holding the Ukhya in your hands,'—for the Ukhya (the fire in the pan) they do hold in their hands¹;—'having gone to the back of the sky, to heaven, keep ye mingling with the gods!'—that is, 'having gone to the back of the sky, to the heavenly world, keep ye mingling with the gods!'

¹ Viz. inasmuch as the firebrand now being carried forward to the great fire-altar, where it is henceforth to serve as Âhavanîya, was taken from the Gârhapatya fire, which itself is identical with the Ukhya Agni, or fire carried about by the Sacrificer in the Ukhâ, or pan, during his period of initiation. See p. 191, note 1.

25. 'Go thou forth to the eastern quarter, knowing!'—the eastern quarter, doubtless, is Agni's: thus, 'To thine own quarter go thou forth, knowing!'—'be thou Agni's fore-fire here, O Agni!'—that is, 'Of this Agni (*ḷitya*) be thou, O Agni, the fore-fire!'—'Shine thou, illumining all regions!'—that is, 'shine thou, illuminating every region!'—'Grant thou food to our two-footed and four-footed one!' he thereby invokes a blessing.

26. 'From the earth have I ascended the air; from the air have I ascended the sky;'—for from the *Gârhapatya* they go to the *Āgnīdhriya*, and from the *Āgnīdhriya* to the *Āhavanīya*;—'from the sky, the back of the firmament, have I gone to heaven, to the light;'—that is, 'from the sky, the back of the firmament, have I gone to the heavenly world.'

27. 'The heaven-going look not round, they ascend the heaven, the two worlds,'—those who go to the heavenly world do not indeed look round²; 'the wise who performed the all-sustaining sacrifice,'—for that sacrifice is indeed all-sustaining³, and they who perform it are indeed wise.

28. 'Go forward, Agni, first of the godward-going,'—he thereby says to this Agni (that is carried forward), 'Go thou forward, as the first of these godward-going ones;'—'the eye of the gods

¹ Mahīdhara takes 'puro'gni' in the sense of fore-goer (*purāṣa agre aṅgati gakkhati*).

² That is, according to Mahīdhara, they think not of their sons, cattle, &c.

³ Thus Mahīdhara takes 'visvatodhāra;' 'flowing in every direction' (*visvato + dhârâ*), St. Petersburg. Dict.

and of mortals,'—for this (Agni) is indeed the eye of both gods and men;—'they who love to sacrifice together with the *Bhrîgu*s,'—that is, 'sacrificing together with the *Bhrîgu*s,'—'let the offerers go unto heaven, hail!'—that is, 'may the offerers go to the heavenly world, hail!'

29. Now, the gods thereby (viz. by these five verses) wrested from the Asuras the five regions which are in yonder world, and then ascended them; and so does the Sacrificer thereby wrest them from his hateful enemy, and then ascend them. And by means of them the gods attained thither, and so also does this (Sacrificer) by means of them attain thither.

30. He then makes offering on that (firebrand);—for now that he (Agni) had arrived the gods thereupon gratified him with food, this oblation; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer), now that he (Agni) has arrived, thereupon gratify him with food, this oblation. With milk from a black (cow) which has a white calf (he makes offering); the black (cow) with a white calf is the night, and her calf is yonder sun: he thus regales him with his own share, with his own relish. On it (the firebrand, he offers) while it is held above (the naturally-perforated brick); for above (everything) is he whom he thereby gratifies. By means of the milk-pail (he offers), for with the milk-pail milk is given away.

31. And, again, as to why he makes offering upon it. That (*Âhavanîya*) fire is the head of the sacrifice, and milk means breath: he thus puts breath into the head. He should make the offering so that it (the milk) flows on the naturally-perforated (brick);—the naturally-perforated one is breath, and this

(milk) is vital sap: he thus connects and puts together the head and the breath by means of vital sap. [He pours it out, with, *Vâg. S. XVII, 70, 71*], 'Night and Dawn, of one mind, unlike in form,'—the meaning of this has been explained¹.

32. 'O Agni, thousand-eyed!—through the chips of gold² Agni is indeed thousand-eyed;—hundred-headed,'—inasmuch as, at that time³, he was created as the hundred-headed Rudra;—'thine are a hundred out-breathings, and a thousand through-breathings,'—his indeed are a hundred out-breathings and a thousand through-breathings who is hundred-headed and thousand-eyed;—'thou art the master of wealth,'—that is, 'thou art the master of all wealth;—'to thee, our strength, do we give honour!'—he (Agni) is indeed the strength⁴: it is him he thereby gratifies.

33. With two (verses) he makes offering thereon,—two-footed is the Sacrificer, and the Sacrificer is Agni: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much he thus makes offering to him.

34. He then lays it (the firebrand) down, with (*Vâg. S. XVII, 72, 73*), 'A well-winged bird thou art,'—for on that former occasion he, by means of the fashioning-formula, fashions him into a well-winged bird⁵; that well-winged bird he builds up, and having fashioned that well-winged bird, he finally sets him down;—'seat thee on the back

¹ Viz. VI, 7, 2, 2.

² See IX, 2, 1, 1.

³ See IX, 1, 1, 6.

⁴ ? Or, that (firebrand) is indeed food (*vâga*). Mahîdhara interprets this part of the formula thus : To thee do we give food (*vâgâya* for *vâgam*).

⁵ See VI, 7, 2, 5 seq.

of the earth, fill the air with thy shine, prop the sky with thy light, and uphold the quarters by thy lustre!'—for that one (Agni) indeed does all this.

35. 'Receiving offering, kind-faced, in front,'—that is, 'receiving offering, kind-faced for us, in front;'—'seat thee, O Agni, aright in thine own seat!'—for this (fire-altar) is his (Agni's) own seat: thus, 'do thou rightly seat thee in it!'—'in this higher abode,'—the higher abode, doubtless, is the sky;—'sit ye down, the All-gods and the Sacrificer!'—he thus establishes the Sacrificer together with the All-gods. With two (verses) he deposits it: the significance of this has been explained,—with the Vashat-call: the significance of this (will be explained) farther on.

36. He then puts pieces of firewood thereon; for now that he (Agni) had arrived, the gods thereupon gratified him with food, both pieces of firewood and oblations; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer), now that he has arrived, thereupon gratify him with food, both pieces of wood and oblations.

37. He first puts on one of samī-wood (acacia suma). For at that time, when this oblation had been offered, he (Agni) was enkindled and blazed up. The gods were afraid of him, lest he might injure them. They saw this samī tree, and therewith appeased him; and inasmuch as they appeased (sam) him by that samī, it is (called) Samī; and in like manner this (Sacrificer) now appeases him by means of that samī (wood),—just with a view to appeasement, not for food.

38. [He puts it on, with, Vâg. S. XVII, 74], 'I desire the manifest favour of the admirable

Savitri, enjoyed by all men; that great cow of his, the thousand-streamed, teeming with milk, which Kanva was wont to milk;—for Kanva indeed saw her, and she, the thousand-streamed, milked him all his wishes (objects of desire); and in like manner does the thousand-streamed one now milk to the Sacrificer all his objects of desire.

39. He then puts on one of vikaṅkata (flacourtia sapida) wood—the significance whereof has been explained—with (Vâg. S. XVII, 75), ‘To thee give we honour, O Agni, in the highest home;’—his highest home, doubtless, is the sky;—‘to thee give we honour, in hymns of praise, in the lower abode;’—the lower abode, doubtless, is the air;—‘the birth-place whence thou hast arisen do I worship,’—that is, ‘this is his (Agni’s) own birth-place: that I worship;’—‘on thee, when kindled, offerings are poured forth;’—for when he (the fire) is kindled, they make offerings on him.

40. He then puts on one of udumbara (ficus glomerata) wood;—the Udumbara means strength and sap: with strength and sap he thus gratifies him. It has forking branches¹,—forking branches mean cattle: with cattle, as food, he thus gratifies him. If he cannot get one with bifurcate branches, let him take up a globule of sour curds and put it on (the wood): that globule of sour curds which supervenes is a form of cattle. With the virâg (verse, Vâg. S. XVII, 76; Rîg-veda VII, 1, 3),

¹ Weber, Ind. Stud. XIII, 281, takes ‘karṇakavat’ to mean ‘one that has a knot-hole;’ but Deva’s explanation, ‘karṇako dvitīya-sâkhodbhedaḥ,’ probably means nothing else than ‘showing the appearance of a second branch,’ or ‘one in which a second branch (side branch) has struck out.’

'Kindled, blaze forth, O Agni, before us, (with inexhaustible flame, O youngest! perpetual viands accrue unto thee!)'—he puts it on;—the Virâg means food: with food he thus gratifies him. Three pieces of wood he puts on,—threefold is Agni: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much food he thus gratifies him.

41. He then offers oblations,—this is just as if, after serving food to some one, one gives him something to drink. With the dipping-spoon (*sruva*) he offers the first two, with the offering-ladle (*sruk*) the last (oblation); (the first) with (*Vâg*. S. XVII, 77), 'O Agni, may we, with hymns and thoughts, speed this day this (sacrifice) of thine, even as a steed, as a noble, heart-stirring deed!'—that is, 'whatever heart-stirring hymn is thine, may I speed (perform) that for thee.' With a *pañkti* (verse) he offers,—of five feet consists the *Pañkti*, of five layers the fire-altar, five seasons are a year, and Agni is the year: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much food he thus gratifies him.

42. He then offers (the second oblation), the one for *Visvakarman*,—*Visvakarman* (the all-worker) is this Agni: it is him he thereby gratifies,—with (*Vâg*. S. XVII, 78), 'Thought I offer, with mind and ghee,'—that is, 'The thought of these (priests and Sacrificer) I offer with mind and ghee;'—'that the gods come hither,'—that is, 'that the gods may come hither;'—'enjoying their offering-meal, the holy-minded,'—that is, the true-minded;—'to *Visvakarman*, the lord of all existence, I offer,'—that is, 'to that *Visvakarman* who is the lord of all that here exists I offer;'—'every day the

unimpaired oblation,'—that is, 'always the uninjured oblation.'

43. He then offers a full (-spoon) oblation,—the full means everything: with everything he thus gratifies him.

44. [He offers, with, Vâg. S. XVII, 79], 'Thine, O Agni, are seven logs,'—logs mean vital airs, for the vital airs do kindle him;—'seven tongues,'—this he says with regard to those seven persons which they made into one person¹;—'seven *Rîshis*,'—for seven *Rîshis* they indeed were;—'seven beloved seats,'—this he says with regard to the metres, for his seven beloved seats are the metres;—'sevenfold the seven priests worship thee,'—for in a sevenfold way the seven priests indeed worship him;—'the seven homes,'—he thereby means the seven layers (of the altar);—'fill thou!'—that is, 'generate thou';—'with ghee,'—ghee means seed: he thus lays seed into these worlds;—'svâhâ!'—the svâhâ (hail!) is the sacrifice; he thus at once makes everything here fit for sacrifice.

45. 'Seven' he says each time,—of seven layers the fire-altar consists, and of seven seasons the year, and Agni is the year: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much he thus gratifies him. Three oblations he offers,—threefold is Agni: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much food he thus gratifies him. Three logs he puts on,—that makes six: the significance of this has been explained.

46. Standing he puts on the logs,—the logs are bones, and bones stand, so to speak. Sitting he

¹ See VI, 1, 1, 1 seq.

offers the oblations,—oblations are the flesh, and the flesh sits (lies), so to speak. The logs are inside (the fire), and the oblations outside, for the bones are inside, and the flesh is outside.

47. Now, then, as to the (mystic) correspondence (or, amount). Six he offers before (the leading forward of the fire), and six afterwards; with six (formulas) they proceed up to the variegated stone; with two he lays down the variegated stone; with four they proceed as far as the fire-altar; with five they mount the fire-altar: that makes twenty-nine, and the oblation itself is the thirtieth. With two (verses) he deposits the fire,—that makes thirty-two, and of thirty-two syllables consists the Anushṭubh: such, then, is this Anushṭubh.

48. And this one (Anushṭubh) they bring hither from those three Anushṭubhs which they make up on the Gârhapatya¹; and inasmuch as they bring this (therefrom) hither, thereby this whole Agni (fire-altar) becomes completed. But now he was not yet fit to eat food².

49. He said to Agni³, 'By thee I will eat food!'—'So be it!' Hence it is only when they bring him hither, that this (Āityâgni) becomes fit to eat food, to eat oblations.

50. Moreover, they say, 'It is Pragâpati himself who takes this (Agni) as his dear son to his bosom;' and verily, whosoever so knows this, takes thus a dear son to his bosom.

¹ See VII, 1, 2, 16-19.

² Literally, he was not equal thereto that he should eat food.

³ That is, the Āityâgni (fire-altar) said to the Agni (fire) about to be led forward.

51. And, again, as to why they bring it here,—the Agni (fire-altar) which is built up here is the same as those seven persons which they made into one person; and that excellence and life-sap of them which they concentrated above, that is the fire which they now bring here,—hence, when they now bring it here, they concentrate above (in the head) that excellence and life-sap which belonged to those seven persons,—that is his (Agni's) head, and this built-up fire-altar is the body: having thus completed his body, he restores the head to it.

THIRD ADHYĀYA. FIRST BRĀHMANA.

INSTALLATION AND CONSECRATION OF AGNI.

1. He then offers the Vaisvânara (cake). That Agni has now been completely restored; he now is that deity, (Agni) Vaisvânara (belonging to all men): to him he offers this oblation, and by the oblation he makes him a deity, for for whatever deity an oblation is prepared that is a deity, but not one for whom no (oblation) is prepared. It is one of twelve potsherds: twelve months are a year, and Vaisvânara is the year.

2. And, again, as to why he offers the Vaisvânara (cake),—it is as the Vaisvânara that he is about to produce that Agni: on that former occasion, at the initiation-offering¹, he pours him out in the form of seed; and what the seed is like that is poured

¹ Cp. VI, 6, 1, 6. Whilst the initiation-offering of the ordinary Soma-sacrifice consists only of a cake on eleven potsherds to Agni and Vishṇu, that of the Agnikāyana requires two further oblations, viz. a cake on twelve potsherds to Vaisvânara, and a rice-pap with ghee to the Âdityas; cf. part iii, p. 247 note.

into the womb, such like (is the child that) is born; and inasmuch as there he pours out Vaisvânara in the form of seed, therefore he now is born as Vaisvânara. Silently¹ it is (performed) there, for there seed (is implied) in the sacrifice, and silently seed is infused; but distinctly on the present occasion, for distinct (manifest) is the seed when born.

3. Now, that Vaisvânara is all these worlds: this earth is the All (visva), and Agni is its man (nara); the air is the All, and Vâyu (the wind) is its man (ruler); the sky is the All, and Âditya (the sun) is its man.

4. And these worlds are the same as this head,—this (lower part of the head) is the earth, the plants (being) the hair of its beard: this is the All, and Agni is Speech, he is the man. That (speech) is at the top thereof, for Agni is on the top of this (earth).

5. This (central part of the face) is the air, whence it is hairless, for hairless, as it were, is the air; it is this All, and Vâyu (the wind) is the breath, he is the man; he is in the middle thereof, for the wind is in the middle of the air.

6. The sky is the (upper part of the) head, and the stars are the hair; it is the All, and Âditya (the sun) is the eye, he is the man: it is in the lower part of the (upper) head, for the sun is below the sky. Vaisvânara is the head thereof, and this built-up Agni (the altar) is the body: thus, having completed his body, he restores the head thereto.

7. He then offers the (cakes) to the Maruts;—

¹ Or, rather, in a low voice, the name of the deity being pronounced in an undertone while the oblation is poured into the fire; see VI, 6, 1, 11. No special formula is, however, used on either occasion.

the Maruts' (cakes) are the vital airs: he thus puts the vital airs into him (Agni). [He does so] after offering the Vaisvânara; for the Vaisvânara is the head: he thus puts vital airs into the head.

8. That (Vaisvânara oblation) is a single one, for single, as it were, is the head; the others (viz. the Mârutas) are seven in number, of seven potsherds each; and though 'seven-seven' means 'many times,' here it is only seven¹: he thus places seven vital airs in the head.

9. That (Vaisvânara oblation) is (performed in a) distinct (voice), for the head is distinct; but indistinct the other (oblations), for indistinct, as it were, are the vital airs. Standing he offers the former, for the head stands, so to speak; sitting the others, for the vital airs are, so to speak, seated.

10. Now, the first two Mâruta (oblations) he offers are these two vital airs (in the ears): he offers them in the middle² of the Vaisvânara (oblations), for these two vital airs are in the middle of the head.

11. And the second pair are these two (vital airs

¹ See VIII, 1, 1. 2. Also VI, 5, 3, 11, where the translation should be altered accordingly.

² In baking the cakes, the Vaisvânara is placed on the centre of the fire, and the first two Mâruta cakes are placed north and south of it, then the following pair of cakes behind the first, but more closely together, and behind these the third pair, still more closely together, and finally the last cake forming, as it were, the apex of a phalanx of Mâruta cakes (or wind-deities) protecting (that of) Agni Vaisvânara. In offering the cakes a similar method is to be followed; except that the first pair of Mâruta cakes may be offered, not in the fire itself, but on the previously flattened out Vaisvânara cake lying on the fire. Whilst the Kâtîya-sûtra (XVIII, 4, 23) admits this as an alternative mode (though not very clearly expressed), our passage seems to require it as the only possible mode. Both the Vaisvânara and the Mâruta cakes are offered whole.

in the eyes); he offers them closer together, for closer together, as it were, are these two vital airs.

12. And the third pair are these two (vital airs in the nostrils). He offers them closer together, for closer together, as it were, are these two vital airs. The one to be recited in the forest¹ is speech: it is to be recited in the forest, for by speech one gets into much terrible (trouble).

13. And, again, as to why he offers the Vaisvânara and Mârutas,—the Vaisvânara is the ruling power (chieftaincy), and the Mârutas are the clan: he thus sets up both the chief and the clan. The Vaisvânara he offers first: thus, having set up the chief, he sets up the clan.

14. The former is a single (oblation): he thus makes the ruling power (chieftaincy) to attach to a single (person), and (social) distinction to attach to a single (person). The others are numerous: he thus bestows multiplicity on the clan.

15. The former is (offered in a) distinct (voice), for the ruling power is something distinct, so to speak; and the others are indistinct, for indistinct, so to speak, is the clan. Standing he offers the former, for the ruling power (the chief) stands, so to speak; and sitting (he offers) the others, for the clan sits, so to speak.

16. The former he offers with the offering-ladle,

¹ 'Aranye-nûkya' is the technical term applied to the odd, or seventh, Mâruta oblation. According to *Sâyana* it is so called after an anuvâka of the *Samhitâ*, to be recited only in the forest. Possibly, however, it is to the particular formula (*Vâg. S. XXXIX, 7*), also called 'vimukha' (? to be pronounced 'with averted face'), and containing the names of the seven most terrible Maruts, that the name applies.

when the Vashaṭ is uttered, with both an invitatory formula (anuvākyā) and an offering-formula (yāgyā); with the hand the others sitting, with the Svāhā-call: he thus makes the clan subservient and obedient to the chieftain.

17. As to this they say, 'How do these (Māruta oblations) also come to be offered for him by the offering-ladle, at the Vashaṭ-call, and with invitatory and offering formulas?' Well, the first three feet of those seven-footed Māruta (verses), being a three-footed Gâyatrī, are the invitatory formula, and the last four, being a four-footed Trishṭubh, are the offering-formula. The one is the bowl, and the other the handle (of the offering-ladle), and the Svāhā-call is the Vashaṭ-call: in this way, then, these (Māruta oblations) also become offered for him by the offering-ladle, at the Vashaṭ-call, and with invitatory and offering-formulas.

18. And the first Māruta (cake) which he offers on the right (south) side, is the seven (rivers) which flow eastwards. It is one of seven potsherds, for there are seven of those (rivers) which flow eastwards.

19. And the first (cake) which he offers on the left (north) side, is the seasons; it is one of seven potsherds, for there are seven seasons.

20. And the second (cake) which he offers on the right side, is animals; it is one of seven potsherds, for there are seven domestic animals. He offers it close to the preceding one (representing the rivers): he thus settles animals near water.

21. And the second (cake) which he offers on the left side, is the seven Rīshis; it is one of seven potsherds, for the seven Rīshis are seven in number.

He offers it close to the preceding one: he thus establishes the seven *Rîshis* in the seasons.

22. And the third (cake) which he offers on the right side, is the vital airs; it is one of seven potsherds, for there are seven vital airs in the head. He offers it close to the preceding one: he thus puts the vital airs so as to be close to (not separated from) the head.

23. And the third (cake) which he offers on the left side, is the metres; it is one of seven potsherds, for there are seven metres increasing by four (syllables respectively). He offers it close to the preceding one: he thus places the metres close to the *Rîshis*.

24. And the *Aranye-nûkya* is the seven (rivers) which flow westwards; it is one of seven potsherds, for there are seven of those (rivers) which flow westwards. It is that downward vital air of his. That *Aranye-nûkya* belongs to this *Pragâpati*; for the forest (*aranya*) is, as it were, concealed, and concealed, as it were, is that downward vital air; whence those who drink of these (downward flowing) rivers become most vile, most blasphemous, most lascivious in their speech. Whenever he here speaks of them as belonging to the *Maruts*, he makes them food for him (*Agni*)¹ and offers it to him, and gratifies him thereby.

25. That *Vaisvânara* (cake), doubtless, is yonder sun, and the *Mâruta* (cakes) are those rays. They are of seven potsherds each, for the troops of the *Maruts* consist of seven each.

¹ Probably, inasmuch as the *Maruts* (and the *Mâruta* oblations) represent the clansmen who are considered the legitimate 'food' or the chief, *Agni Vaisvânara*.

26. He offers (the first Māruta cake), with (Vâg. S. XVII, 80), 'The clear-lighted, and the bright-lighted, and the true-lighted, and the light, and the clear, and the law-observing, and the sinless one!'—these are their names: having completed that disk (of the sun, in the shape of the Vaisvânara), he bestows those rays on it by calling them by their names.

SECOND BRĀHMANA.

THE SHOWER OF WEALTH AND OTHER OBLATIONS.

1. Thereupon¹ he (the Sacrificer²) offers the Vasor dhârâ. That whole Agni has now been completed, and he is here the Vasu (good one): to that Vasu the gods offered this shower (dhârâ), whence it is called 'Vasor dhârâ³;' and in like manner this (Sacrificer) offers to him this shower, and gratifies him thereby.

2. And, again, as to why he offers the 'Vasor dhârâ;'—this is his (Agni's) Abhisheka⁴; for the

¹ That is, after offering all the seven Māruta cakes, the formulas of the last six of which (Vâg. S. XVII, 81-85; XXXIX, 7) are not given in the Brâhmaṇa. At the end the Adhvaryu mutters the verse XVII, 86, and thereupon he either makes the Sacrificer mutter (or mutters himself) verses 87-99 in praise of Agni. Kâty. Sr. XVIII, 4, 25; 26.

² Thus, according to Kâty. XVIII, 5, 1 (the Adhvaryu, according to Weber, Ind. Stud. XIII, p. 283).

³ It would rather seem to mean 'stream, or shower, of wealth;' cf. paragraph 4.

⁴ That is, the consecration ceremony, in which the king is 'sprinkled' with sacred water, or, so to speak, anointed. The 'Vasor dhârâ,' or 'shower of wealth,' consisting of an uninterrupted series of 401 libations to Agni (through which all the powers of the god are to be secured to the Sacrificer), is intended as the

gods, having now completed him wholly and entirely, showered upon him those wishes (or, objects of desire), this 'Vasor dhârâ;' and in like manner does this (Sacrificer), now that he has completed him wholly and entirely, shower upon him those wishes, this 'Vasor dhârâ.' With ghee taken in five ladlings, and an offering-ladle of udumbara wood (he offers): the significance of this has been explained.

3. [He offers it] after offering the Vaisvânara (cake)—for the Vaisvânara is the head, and food is taken in from the head (downwards); and, besides, it is from the head (downwards) that he who is anointed is anointed;—and after offering the Mâruta (cakes), for the Mârutas are the vital airs, and through (the channels of) the vital airs food is eaten; and, besides, it is at (the openings of) the vital airs that he who is anointed is anointed¹.

4. And, furthermore, (it is offered) upon the Aranye-nûkya²; for the Aranye-nûkya is speech, and it is through (the channel of) speech that food is eaten; and, besides, it is with speech that he who

equivalent of that ceremony for the consecration of Agni as king; and, indeed, as a kind of superior consecration ceremony for the (royal) Sacrificer himself, more potent than the Râgasûya and Vâgapeya. There is thus to be noticed here the same tendency as elsewhere of exalting the efficacy of the Agnikayana, and of making it take the place of the whole of the ordinary sacrificial ceremonial.

¹ When anointed, or consecrated, the king is first sprinkled from the front and then from behind, and finally rubbed all over, with the consecrated water; see V, 4, 2, 1 seq.

² That is, as soon as the Adhvaryu has put the Aranye-nûkya cake in the fire the Sacrificer begins to pour the ghee on it with a large offering-ladle of udumbara wood, and the Adhvaryu begins to mutter the formulas.

is anointed is anointed. And everything here is wealth (vasu), for all these (cake-offerings) are (connected with special) wishes¹; and in order that this shower, be it of milk or of ghee, (may be) fraught with wealth, this oblation of ghee is thus offered for the beginning; and inasmuch as this shower is fraught with wealth, it is called 'shower of wealth.'

5. He (as it were) says, 'This is mine, and that is mine;'—that is, 'Herewith I gratify thee, and therewith;—herewith I anoint thee, and therewith;' or, 'Give me this, and that!' And as soon as that shower reaches the fire, that prayer is fulfilled.

6. Now the gods, having gratified him (Agni) by this food, or by these objects of desire², and having anointed him by this shower of wealth, solicited from him these objects of desire³; and having received offering, and being gratified and anointed, he granted them these objects of desire; and in like manner this (Sacrificer), having gratified him by this food, and by these offerings of desire, and anointed him with this shower of wealth, now solicits from him these objects of desire; and having received offering, and being gratified and anointed, he (Agni) grants him these objects of desire. In order to avoid discontinuance, he each time embraces two wishes,—even as one would connect those living away from one another,—thinking, 'In this way shall they prosper by sacrifice!'

7. The gods now spake, 'Through whom shall we receive these objects of desire?'—'By our own

¹ Or, all these (objects) for which offerings are made are objects of desire.

² Or, perhaps, 'for (prompted by) these objects of desire.'

³ Or, asked him these wishes (boons)

self,' they said; for the sacrifice is the self of the gods, and so is the sacrifice that of the Sacrificer; and when he says, 'By the sacrifice they shall prosper!' he means to say, 'By my own self they shall prosper!'

8. In twelve (things) he causes them to prosper¹, the year consists of twelve months, and Agni is the year: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, by so much food he thus gratifies him, and by so much food he thus consecrates him. In fourteen he causes them to prosper; in eight he causes them to prosper; in ten he causes them to prosper: in thirteen he causes them to prosper.

9. He then offers the Ardhendra (libations)²;—the ardhendras are everything here³: he thus gratifies him (Agni) with everything, and with everything he thus consecrates him.

10. He then offers (the libations relating to) the Grahās⁴;—the grahas (cups of soma, offered to

¹ That is, he makes the objects of desire mentioned in the formulas used during the Vasoḥ dhârâ, accrue to himself, or turn out well for himself. The formulas usually contain the names of twelve such objects (in six pairs), those in XVIII, 1 being—'(may) strength and gain, endeavour and attempt, thought and wisdom, sound and praise, fame and hearing, light and heaven, prosper for (or accrue to) me by sacrifice!' In XVIII, 4, however, fourteen objects are enumerated, in XVIII, 15 (and 27) eight, in XVIII, 23 (and 26) ten, in XVIII, 28 thirteen.

² Literally, 'the half-Indra ones,' the technical term for the formulas of three sets of libations (XVIII, 16–18), in which three sets of twelve deities are named, each pair of whom consists of Indra coupled with some other deity, thus 'May Agni and Indra, Soma and Indra, &c., prosper for (or accrue to) me by sacrifice!'

³ Viz. inasmuch as Indra represents the ruling power, and everything submits to him (III, 9, 4, 15); or inasmuch as Indra and Agni are the whole universe (IV, 2, 2, 14).

⁴ These are three sets of libations (still forming part of the con-

the deities), doubtless, are sacrifice: by sacrifice, by food, he thus gratifies him; and by sacrifice he thus consecrates him.

THIRD BRÂHMANA.

1. He then offers these *Yagñakratu*¹ (sacrificial rites), with, 'Ma the Agni and the Gharma (prosper) for me!'—by these sacrificial rites he thus gratifies him, and by these sacrificial rites he thus consecrates him.

2. He then offers (the libations relating to) the Uneven Stomas²;—for the gods, having now obtained their desires, by means of the uneven Stomas went up to heaven; and in like manner does the Sacrificer, now that he has obtained all his desires, by means of the uneven Stomas go up to heaven.

3. Now this (set runs) up to the thirty-three-versed (hymn-form), for the *Trayastrimsa* is the last of the uneven Stomas: at the last the gods thus

tinuous 'Vasor dhârâ,' or 'wealth-stream'), the formulas of which (XVIII, 19-21) enumerate each six pairs of cups of Soma (graha) and of sacrificial implements.

¹ These are two sets of libations in the formulas of which (XVIII, 22; 23) objects connected with 'special sacrifices' are enumerated. Thus, of the first pair, 'Agni and Gharma,' 'Agni,' according to Mahîdhara, represents either the *Agnikayana* or the *Agnishoma* (ordinary Soma-sacrifice); whilst the 'Gharma (cauldron)' stands for the *Pravargya* offering (part i, p. 44 note).

² The formula of this set of libations (XVIII, 24) enumerates the seventeen uneven numbers (in the feminine gender) from 1 to 33, repeating the second number of each pair, so as to be the first number of the next pair (thus, 1 and 3, 3 and 5, &c.). These numbers are meant to represent the corresponding Stomas, consisting of an uneven number of verses, up to the *Trayastrimsa*, or thirty-three-versed hymn-form.

went up to heaven; and in like manner does the Sacrificer thereby at the last go up to heaven.

4. He then offers (those relating to) the Even (Stomas)¹;—for the metres then said, 'The uneven stomas are worn out, by means of the even ones we will go up to heaven!'. By means of the even stomas they went up to heaven; and in like manner does the Sacrificer thus, by means of the even stomas, go up to heaven.

5. This (set runs) up to the forty-eight-versed (hymn-form), for the *Ashâtâtvârimsa* is the last of the even stomas: at the last the metres thus went up to heaven; and in like manner does the Sacrificer thereby at the last go up to heaven.

6. He says, 'May the One and the Three (prosper) for me!'—'May the Four and the Eight (prosper) for me!'—even as one climbing a tree would climb up by taking hold of an ever higher branch, so is this. And as to why he offers the Stomas,—the stomas are food: it is with food he thus consecrates him.

7. He then offers (the libations relating to) the Age-grades² (of cattle),—age-grades mean cattle: it is by cattle, for his food, that he thus gratifies

¹ The formula of this set of libations (XVIII, 25) enumerates the twelve quadruples of 4 (in the feminine gender), from 4 to 48 (again repeating each number, except the first and last), as representing the Stomas consisting of an even number of verses, up to the *Ashâtâtvârimsa*, or forty-eight-versed hymn-form.

² The two formulas relating to these two sets of libations (XVIII, 26; 27) contain respectively five and four pairs of teams of cattle of different ages, beginning with 'tryavi and tryavî,' 'an eighteen-months bull and an eighteen-months cow;' and ending with 'a bullock and a milch cow.'

him; and by cattle, for his food, he thus consecrates him.

8. He then offers whilst mentioning names¹;—for the gods, having obtained all their wishes, now gratified him directly; and in like manner does the Sacrificer, having obtained all his wishes, now gratify him directly. 'To Strength, hail! to Gain, hail!'—these are his (Agni's) names: it is by mentioning his names that he thus gratifies him.

9. There are thirteen of these names,—a year consists of thirteen months, and the layers and fillings of the fire-altar amount to thirteen: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much he thus gratifies him. And as to why he offers while mentioning names,—it is thus in mentioning his (Agni's) names that he consecrates him.

10. He then says, 'This is thy realm; a supporter and sustainer art thou for the friend: for sustenance, for rain, for the lordship of creatures (do I consecrate) thee;'—sustenance, doubtless, means food, and rain means food: by food he thus gratifies him.

11. And when he says, 'This is thy realm; a supporter and sustainer art thou for the friend: for sustenance, for rain, for the lordship of creatures—thee!' this is to say, 'This is thy kingdom; thou art consecrated (anointed)! thou art thy friend's supporter and sustainer: for our sustenance art thou, for rain unto us art thou, for our lordship of

¹ This set of thirteen libations (XVIII, 28) is offered to the months Vâga, Prasava, &c., here apparently considered as manifestations of Agni (the year). Each name is followed by 'svâhâ (hail!);' and the last of these dedicatory formulas is followed by the special benedictory formula, referred to in paragraph 10.

creatures art thou!' They thereby entreat him, 'For all this art thou unto us: for all this have we consecrated thee!' And therefore people thus entreat a human king who has been consecrated

12. He then offers the Prospering¹ (libations);—the prospering (libations) are the vital airs: it is the vital airs he thus puts into him.—'May the vital strength prosper by sacrifice! may the vital air prosper by sacrifice! . . .' He thus puts proper vital airs into him.

13. Twelve prospering (libations) he offers,—a year consists of twelve months, and Agni is the year: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, by so much he thus puts proper vital airs into him. And as to why he offers the prospering (libations),—the prospering (libations) are vital airs, and the vital airs are the immortal element: with the immortal element he thus consecrates him.

14. He then says, 'The Stoma, and the Yagus, and the *Rik*, and the *Sâman*, and the *Bṛihat*, and the *Rathantara*,'—this, doubtless, is the triple science, and the triple science is food: it is with food he thus gratifies him, and with food he thus consecrates him;—'to the heavenly light we gods have gone, we have become immortal,'—for he indeed goes to the heavenly light, and becomes immortal;—'Pragâpati's children have we become!'—for he indeed becomes Pragâpati's child,—'vet! svâhâ!'—the *Vet*-call, doubtless, is

¹ This final set of twelve (? sixteen) libations is called thus (kalpa), because, in the formulas used with them (*Vâg. S. XVIII, 29*), the verb 'kîp (to prosper, to be right and proper)' is repeated each time. At the conclusion of these twelve formulas the priest mutters the final benediction given in full in paragraph 14.

esoterically the same as the Vashaṭ-call, and either with the Vashaṭ-call, or the Svâhâ-call is food offered to the gods: he thus gratifies him by both the Vashaṭ and the Svâhâ, and also consecrates him by both of them. He now throws the offering-ladle after (the ghee into the fire) lest what there is anointed with ghee should remain outside of the fire.

15. Now as to this same shower of wealth, the body (from which it flows) is the sky, the udder the cloud, the teat the lightning, and the shower (of ghee) is the (rain-) shower: from the sky it comes to the cow.

16. Its body is the cow, its udder the (cow's) udder, its teat the (cow's) teat, its shower the shower (of milk): from the cow (it comes) to the Sacrificer.

17. Its body is the Sacrificer, its udder his arm, its teat the offering-ladle, its shower (of milk) the shower of (ghee): from the Sacrificer (it goes) to the gods; from the gods to the cow, from the cow to the Sacrificer: thus circulates this perpetual, never-ending food of the gods. And, verily, for whosoever knows this, there will thus be perpetual, never-ending food. Now as to the (mystic) correspondence.

18. As to this they say, 'How does this wealth-shower of his obtain (conformity with) the year, and Agni? how does it correspond to the year, to Agni?' Well, this shower of wealth consists of three hundred and sixty (libations), and of (other) six, and of thirty-five. Now, the three hundred and sixty which there are,—so many being the days in the year,—thereby it obtains the days of the year. And what six there are,—the seasons being

six in number,—thereby it obtains the nights of the seasons: thus it obtains both the days and nights of the year. And what thirty-five there are, they are the (intercalary) thirteenth month¹, and that is the body,—the body (consists) of thirty (limbs), the feet of two, the breath of two (in-breathing and up-breathing), and the head is the thirty-fifth: so much is the year; and thus that shower of wealth of his obtains (conformity with) the year, and Agni; and thus it corresponds to the year, to Agni. And so many are the bricks with special formulas which are placed in the centre of a *Sândîla* fire-altar; for these bricks indeed are the same as these different Agnis²; and thus these Agnis of his come to have oblations offered to them separately by means of the shower of wealth.

19. As to this they say, 'How does this shower of wealth of his attain to (conformity with) the Great Litany, how does it correspond to the Great Litany?' Well, the first nine formulas of this shower of wealth are the threefold³ head; and the forty-eight which follow are the twenty-four-fold wings⁴; and the twenty-five which follow are the twenty-five-fold body⁵; and the twenty-one which follow are the tail, as the twenty-first⁶; and the

¹ See p. 167, note 1.

² Viz. the different forms, or powers, of Agni, to which the 401 libations are offered. See IX, 1, 1, 43, where the very same calculations are applied to the *Satarudriya*.

³ See p. 114, note 1.

⁴ *Paksha*, wing, also means half-month, fortnight, of which there are twenty-four in the year.

⁵ See p. 168, note 3.

⁶ Apparently in addition to the fingers and toes (? of monkeys).

thirty-five which follow are the Vasa (hymn); and by the eighties (of verses) which follow those eighties (of the mahad uktham) are obtained, for by eighties the Great Litany is counted; and what there is after the eighties, that to him (corresponds to) what, in the Great Litany, there is after the eighties¹; and thus this shower of wealth of his attains to (conformity with) the Great Litany, and corresponds to the Great Litany.

FOURTH BRÂHMANA.

1. He then offers the Vâgaprasaviya² (set of fourteen libations),—‘vâga’ (strength, sustenance) means food (anna): it thus is an ‘anna-prasaviya’ for him, and it is food he thereby raises (pra-sû) for him (Agni).

2. For the gods, now that they had gratified him by that food, and consecrated him by those objects of desire, (to wit) by that stream of wealth³, hereby gratified him once more; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer), now that he has gratified him by that food, and consecrated him by those objects of desire, that shower of wealth, hereby gratify him once more.

¹ See pp. 110, note 3; 112, n. 1; 113, n. 1.

² That is, oblations capable of promoting or quickening strength (or food,—vâga); see part iii, p. 37 (where read Vâgaprasaviya). While the formulas of the first seven of these oblations are the same as those used for those of the Vâgapeya (see V, 2, 2, 5–11), the formulas of the last seven of these oblations are Vâg. S. XVIII, 30–36 (for the first of which, being the same as IX, 5, see VI, 1, 4, 4).

³ This seems to be in apposition to both ‘that food,’ and ‘those objects of desire.’

3. And, again, as to why he offers the Vāga-prasaviya. This, to be sure, is his (Agni's) Abhi-sheka. For, the gods, having gratified him by that food, and consecrated him by those objects of desire, (to wit) by that shower of wealth, then by this (offering) consecrated him once more; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer), having gratified him by that food, and consecrated him by those objects of desire, that shower of wealth, hereby consecrate him once more.

4. It consists of (seeds of) all (kinds of) plants,—that which consists of all plants is all food: he thus gratifies him with all food, and with all food he thus consecrates him. Let him set aside one of these kinds of food, and not eat thereof as long as he lives. With an udumbara (ficus glomerata) cup¹ and an udumbara dipping-spoon (he offers): the significance of these two has been explained. They are both four-cornered,—there are four quarters: he thus gratifies him with food from every quarter, and by means of food from every quarter he thus consecrates him.

5. And, again, as to why he performs the Vāga-prasaviya;—he thereby gratifies those same deities who have been consecrated by this very rite of consecration by which he is now about to be consecrated, and, thus gratified by offering, they grant him permission (to perform) this rite of consecration, and, permitted by them, he becomes consecrated; for only he becomes king whom the (other) kings allow to assume the royal dignity, but not he whom

¹ Or, pan. It has a handle, and serves on this occasion in place of the offering-ladle as well as for anointing the Sacrificer.

they do not (allow to do so). Thus when he offers in the fire he consecrates Agni, and when he offers to these deities, he gratifies those gods who rule over this consecration ceremony.

6. And, indeed, he offers here also the Pârtha¹ (oblations);—for the gods now desired, ‘May we be consecrated even on this occasion by all the rites of consecration!’ They were indeed consecrated on this occasion by all the rites of consecration; and in like manner is the Sacrificer on this occasion consecrated by all the rites of consecration.

7. Now these Pârtha (oblations) are the Vâgprasaviya of the Râgasûya; and by offering these (oblations) he is consecrated by the Râgasûya; and the first seven of the succeeding fourteen (Vâgprasaviya oblations) are the Vâgprasaviya ceremony of the Vâgapeya²: thus, by offering these he is consecrated by the Vâgapeya. And what other seven there are, they belong to Agni (or, the Agni-kayana): by offering these, he is consecrated by the Agni-consecration.

8. He first offers those of the Râgasûya, then those of the Vâgapeya; for by performing the Râgasûya one becomes king (râgâ) and by the Vâgapeya emperor (samrâg), and the position of king is (obtained) first, and thereafter that of

¹ In the same way as, at the Râgasûya, six Pârtha oblations were offered before, and as many immediately after, the Consecration ceremony, or ‘anointment’ (see part iii, p. 81 seq.), so also on the present occasion, except that, between the first six Pârthas and the consecration ceremony, the Vâgprasaviya set, referred to in the preceding paragraphs, is inserted.

² For these seven oblations, see V, 2, 2, 6-11. Only the second set of seven thus is peculiar to the Agni-kayana.

emperor¹: hence after performing the Vâgapeya, one could not perform the Râgasûya,—it would be a descent, just as if one who is emperor were to become king.

9. Those (seven Vâgaprasaviya oblations) of the fire-altar he offers last, for the Agni-consecration indeed is (equal to) all those rites of consecration, and he who is consecrated by the Agni-consecration rite becomes everything, king and emperor: therefore he offers those of the fire-altar last of all.

10. He then anoints him on a black antelope skin,—for the black antelope skin is (a symbol of) the sacrifice: it is thus at the sacrifice that he anoints him. On the hairy side (of the skin),—for the hairs are the metres: on the metres he thus anoints him. On the left (north) side (of the fire-altar he anoints him): the significance of this (will be explained) further on. On (the skin laid down) with the neck-part towards the front, for that (tends) godwards.

11. Some, however, anoint him on the right (south) side of the fire-altar, on the ground that it is from the right side that food is served, and that they thus anoint him from the food-side. But let him not do so, for that (southern) region belongs to the Fathers, and quickly he goes to that region whom they anoint in that way.

12. And some, indeed, anoint him on the Âhavanîya, on the ground that the Âhavanîya is the world of heaven, and that they thus anoint him in the world of heaven. But let him not do so, for that (Âhavanîya, the fire-altar,) is his (the Sacrificer's)

¹ See V, 1, 1, 12.

divine body, and this (Sacrificer, or Sacrificer's real body) is his human one: they thus attach that divine body of his to this his mortal body, if they anoint him in this way.

13. Let him anoint him on the left (north) side and nowhere else, for that north-eastern region belongs to both gods and men: they thus anoint him whilst seated and established in his own region, for he who is established in his own seat suffers no injury.

14. One who has gained a position in the world should be anointed sitting, for one who has gained a position is seated, so to speak;—and one who is striving to gain one standing, for one who wishes to gain a position, stands, so to speak. On a he-goat's skin should be anointed one desirous of prosperity, on a black-antelope skin one desirous of spiritual lustre, on both (kinds of skins) one desirous of both: that (skin) he spreads north of the tail (of the fire-altar) with its hair uppermost and its neck-part towards the east.

15. Close to the enclosing-stones¹: inasmuch as the black-antelope skin is close to the enclosing-stones, so that divine body of his is consecrated on the black-antelope skin; and inasmuch as he is consecrated whilst keeping hold of the fire-altar he is not cut off from that divine consecration (of the Fire).

16. He anoints him after making offering on the fire-altar, for that (altar) is his divine body, and

¹ Sâyana takes 'âsprîṣhām parisritaḥ' to mean 'lightly touched (just touched) by an enclosing-stone.' The participle would rather seem here to have an active meaning, like 'anvârabdhā' in the same paragraph.

this (Sacrificer himself) is his human one; and the gods indeed were first, and thereafter the men: therefore, after making offering, he anoints him with what remains over of that same (offering-material)¹. He then throws the dipping-spoon after (the oblations into the fire).

17. Placing himself near the (Sacrificer's) right arm, he then anoints him², with (Vâg. S. XVIII, 37), 'At the impulse of the divine Savitri, I anoint thee, by the arms of the Asvins, by the hands of Pûshan, by the support of Sarasvatî Vâk, the supporter, by the universal sovereignty of Agni!'—for Sarasvatî is Vâk (speech), and hers is all this support. Impelled by Savitri, he thus anoints him by all this support of Sarasvatî Vâk, the supporter, and by the universal sovereignty of Agni. Here he throws the cup (into the fire), lest what is anointed (with offering material) should remain outside the fire.

18. He anoints him in the middle of the Pârtha oblations, for the Pârtha oblations are the year: he thus places him in the middle of the year. Six he offers before, and six after (the consecration ceremony), for there are six seasons: by the seasons he thus encloses (guards) him who is consecrated on both sides. Brîhaspati is the last of the first (six³), and Indra the first of the

¹ That is, with the remainder of the mess of different kinds of seed mixed with milk and water.

² That is, by sprinkling him with the liquid, or pouring it on him.

³ The formulas of the twelve Pârtha oblations are the same as those used on the occasion of the Râgasûya (V, 3, 5, 8, 9), the sixth of which is 'To Brîhaspati hail!' and the seventh 'To Indra hail!'

last (six),—*Brīhaspati* is the priesthood (or priestly office), and *Indra* is the nobility (or political power): by the priesthood and the nobility he thus encloses him who is consecrated on both sides.

FOURTH ADHYĀYA. FIRST BRĀHMANA.

1. He then offers the *Rāshṭrabhrit* (realm-sustaining) oblations;—the realm-sustainers, doubtless, are the kings, for it is they that sustain realms. These deities, indeed, have been consecrated by this same consecration ceremony by which he (the Sacrificer) is now to be consecrated: it is them he thereby gratifies, and thus gratified by offering, they grant him permission (to perform) this consecration ceremony, and, permitted by them, he is consecrated; for only he becomes king whom the (other) kings allow (to assume) the royal dignity, but not he whom they do not (allow to assume it). And inasmuch as the kings sustain realms, and these gods are kings, therefore Realm-sustaining (oblations are performed).

2. And, again, as to why he offers the Realm-sustaining (oblations). From *Pragāpati*, when dismembered, couples went forth, in the form of *Gandharvas* and *Apsaras*; and he, having turned into a chariot, enclosed them, and having enclosed them, he took them to himself and made them his own; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer), thereby enclosing them, take them to himself and make them his own.

3. Now that *Pragāpati* who was dismembered, is this very *Agni* who is here being built up; and

those couples which went forth from him, are these same deities to whom he now makes offering.

4. He makes offering to the Gandharvas and Apsaras, for in the form of Gandharvas and Apsaras they went forth (from Pragâpati). But the Gandharvas and Apsaras also busy themselves with sweet scent (gandha) and beauteous form (rûpa¹), whence if any one goes to his mate he cultivates sweet scent and a beautiful appearance.

5. He offers pairs (of oblations), for birth originates from a pair; and he alone is (ruler of) a kingdom who propagates offspring, but not he who does not propagate offspring. And inasmuch as couples sustain the realm, and these deities consist of couples, these (oblations are called) Realm-sustainers. With ghee taken in twelve ladlings (he offers), and there are twelve of these oblations: the significance of this has been explained.

6. To the male (deity) he makes offering first, then to the females: he thereby endows the male pre-eminently with power². To a single male he makes offering, and to many females, whence even a single man has many wives. To the male (deity) he makes offering both with the Vashat-call and the Svâhâ-call, to the female (deities) only with the Svâhâ: he thereby endows the male pre-eminently with power.

7. [He offers, with, Vâg. S. XVIII, 38-43], 'The

¹ This is apparently intended as an etymological explanation of the two names; Apsaras being taken as derived from 'apsas,' in the sense of 'beauty.' Cf. Weber, Ind. Stud. XIII, p. 135, note 3.

² Or, perhaps, 'he places the male above (the female) in respect of power;' see p. 133, note 1.

law-upholding, law-abiding,'—that is, the truth-upholding, truth-abiding, — 'Agni is the Gandharva: his Apsaras are the plants,'—for as a Gandharva, Agni, indeed, went forth with the plants as the Asparas, his mates,—'Delights (mud) by name,'—the plants are indeed delights, for everything here delights in plants;—'may he protect this our priesthood and nobility: to him Hail! Vâz! To them (fem.) Hail!' The meaning of this has been explained¹.

8. 'The Close-knit,'—yonder sun is indeed close-knit, for he knits together the days and nights;—'all-wealthy,'—for that (sun) indeed is every kind of wealth;—'Sûrya is the Gandharva: his Apsaras are the sun-motes,'—for as a Gandharva, the sun, indeed, went forth with the sun-motes as the Apsaras, his mates,—'Mobile (âyu) by name,'—for moving together², as it were, the sun-motes float;—'may he protect this our priesthood and nobility,'—the meaning of this has been explained.

9. 'The most blessed,'—that is, the most worthy of worship,—'sun-rayed,'—for like the sun's are the moon's rays;—'Kandramas (the

¹ In accordance with the preceding paragraph, that part of the formula which relates to the male deity, viz. 'The law-upholding, law-abiding Agni is the Gandharva—may he protect this our priesthood and nobility: to him Svâhâ! Vâz!' is to be uttered first, and the first oblation to be offered at the call 'Vâz,' i.e. Vasha, 'may he (Agni) carry it (to the gods)!' Then that part relating to the female deities is uttered, after which the second oblation is offered. In the same way the other five formulas are to be treated. See Mahîdhara's remarks on the present formula.

² Â-yuvânâz, literally 'holding to each other,' a wrong etymology of 'âyu,' 'lively.'

moon) is the Gandharva: his Apsaras are the stars;—for as a Gandharva the moon, indeed, went forth with the stars as the Apsaras, his mates;—‘Luminous (bhekuri) by name;—light-giving (bhākuri¹) these, indeed, are called, for the stars give light;—‘may he protect this our priesthood and nobility!’ the meaning of this has been explained.

10. ‘The Agile,’—that is, the swift,—‘all-expansive,’—for the wind (air), indeed, makes up all this expanse;—‘Vâta (the wind) is the Gandharva: his Apsaras are the waters,’—for as a Gandharva the wind, indeed, went forth with the waters as the Apsaras, his mates;—‘Viands (ûrg) by name,’—the waters, indeed, are called ‘ûrgah,’ for food is produced from the waters;—‘may he protect this our priesthood and nobility!’ the meaning of this has been explained.

11. ‘The beneficent, well-winged,’—beneficent (bhugyu²) indeed is the sacrifice, for the sacrifice benefits all beings,—‘Yagñā (the sacrifice) is the Gandharva: his Apsaras are the offering-gifts,’—for as a Gandharva the sacrifice, indeed, went forth, with the offering-gifts as the Apsaras,

¹ This etymological explanation of ‘bhekuri’ is doubtful.

² The real meaning of bhugyu in this passage is very doubtful; while it usually means ‘flexible,’ the St. Petersburg Dictionary here tentatively assigns to it the meaning ‘adder.’ Whether the author of the Brâhmana really connects it with ‘bhug (bhunakti),’ ‘to enjoy, benefit’ (instead of with ‘bhug,’ ‘to bend’), or whether the explanation is merely meant as an etymological play of words, is not clear. Mahîdhara indeed derives it from the former root, in the sense of ‘to protect.’ The order of the words ‘yagñō vai bhugyuh’ would properly require to be rendered by—The ‘bhugyu’ doubtless is the sacrifice.

his mates;—‘Praises (stāvā) by name,’—the offering-gifts are indeed praises, for the sacrifice is praised for offering-gifts; and whosoever gives an offering-gift (to priests) is praised;—‘may he protect this our priesthood and nobility!’ the meaning of this has been explained.

12. ‘The lord of creatures, the all-worker,’—Pragâpati (lord of creatures) is indeed the all-worker, for he has wrought all this (universe);—‘Manas (the mind) is the Gandharva: his Apsaras are the hymn-verses and hymn-tunes,’—as a Gandharva, the Mind indeed went forth, with the hymn-verses and hymn-tunes as the Apsaras, his mates;—‘Wishes (eshā) by name,’—the hymn-verses and hymn-tunes are indeed wishes, for by verses and tunes people pray, ‘May this accrue unto us! may it fare thus with us!’—‘may he protect this our priest and nobility!’ the meaning of this has been explained.

13. He then makes an offering on the Head of the Chariot;—this, indeed, is that very rite of consecration,—and by that he is now consecrated,—which this (Sacrificer) is permitted to perform by those deities with whose permission he is consecrated¹; for he alone becomes king whom the (other) kings allow (to assume) the royal dignity, and not he whom (they do) not (allow to assume it). With ghee taken in five ladlings (he offers), and this is offered as five oblations: the significance of this has been explained.

14. On the head (or front part of the chariot the

¹ The construction of the text (occurring again at IX, 4, 4, 8) is rather irregular.

offering is made), for it is from the head (downwards) that he who is anointed is anointed,—whilst it is held above (the Âhavantya), for above (others) is he who is thus anointed;—with the same formula (repeated each time), for one and the same (person) is he who is thus anointed;—whilst taking round (the chariot-head) in every direction¹: on every side he thus is anointed.

15. And, again, as to why he makes offering on the head of the chariot;—it is because this chariot is yonder sun; for it was by assuming that form that Pragâpati enclosed those couples, and took them to himself, and made them his own; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer) thereby enclose them, and take them to himself, and make them his own. Whilst it (the chariot-head) is held above (the fire, he offers), for above (others) was he who, enclosing those couples, took them to himself, and made them his own;—and with the same formula, for one and the same is he who, by enclosing those couples, took them to himself, and made them his own.

16. [He offers each time, with, Vâg. S. XVIII, 44], ‘O Lord of the world, Lord of creatures!’—for this (Agni), indeed, is the lord of the world, and the lord of creatures;—‘thou whose dwellings are on high, or here below,’—both on high and

¹ The body (or ‘nest,’ seat-part) of the chariot is shifted sunwise round the fire on the great altar, so that the fore-part keeps over the fire where the Adhvaryu’s assistant holds it, and in each of the four directions, as well as in the centre of the fire, the Adhvaryu offers a libation of ghee, whilst facing the chariot-head. According to a comment on the respective rules (Kâty. XVIII, 5, 17–20) alluded to by Prof. Weber (Ind. Stud. XIII, p. 286), the fore-part of the chariot would, however, seem to be taken off the seat-part; the latter being carried round the fire as the oblations are made.

here below, indeed, are his dwellings;—‘to this priesthood and this nobility of ours,’—for this Agni is both the priesthood and the nobility,—‘grant thou mighty protection, hail!’—that is, ‘grant thou powerful protection!’

SECOND BRÂHMAṆA.

1. He then offers (three) oblations of air;—this fire-altar is these (three) worlds, and the oblations of air are wind: he thus places the wind into these worlds, and hence there is wind here in these worlds.

2. He takes (the air) from outside the Vedi; for that wind which is in these worlds is already contained in this (fire-altar), and he now puts into it that wind which is beyond these worlds.

3. From outside the Vedi (he takes it),—for the Vedi is this (earth), and the wind which is on this (earth) is already contained in this (fire-altar): he now puts into it the wind which is beyond this (earth).

4. By his two hollow hands (he takes it), for only in this way is the catching of that (wind brought about). With the Svâhâ-call (he offers), for he offers just under the shafts (of the chariot),—this chariot is yonder sun: he thus places the wind on this side of the sun, and hence that one blows on this side thereof.

5. [He offers, with, Vâg. S. XVIII, 45], ‘Thou art the cloudy ocean,’—the cloudy ocean, doubtless, is yonder world (of the sky),—‘the giver of moisture,’—for that (wind) indeed gives moisture: he thus bestows on this (fire-altar) the wind which is in yonder world;—‘blow thou kindly and propitiously upon me, hail!’—that is, ‘blow favourably and gently upon me!’

6. 'Thou art the stormy (region), the troop of the Maruts,'—the stormy (region), the troop of the Maruts, doubtless, is the air-world: he thus bestows on this (fire-altar) the wind which is in the air-world;—'blow thou kindly and propitiously upon me, hail!'—that is, 'blow favourably and gently upon me!'

7. 'Thou art the one affording protection and worship,'—the one that affords protection and worship, doubtless, is this (terrestrial) world: he thus bestows upon this (fire-altar) the wind which is in this world;—'blow thou kindly and propitiously upon me, hail!'—that is, 'blow favourably and gently upon me!'

8. With three (formulas) he offers,—three are these worlds, and threefold is Agni: as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much he thus puts air into these worlds.

9. And as to why he offers the oblations of air: he thereby yokes that chariot of his; for it was thereby that the gods yoked that chariot for (the obtainment of) all their wishes, thinking, 'By it, when yoked, we shall obtain them;' and by that yoked (chariot) they indeed obtained their wishes; and in like manner does the Sacrificer thereby yoke that chariot of his for (the obtainment of) all his wishes, thinking, 'By it, when yoked, I shall obtain them;' and by that yoked (chariot) he indeed obtains all his wishes.

10. He yokes it with the oblations of air¹,—the oblations of air are the vital airs: it is thus with the

¹ That is, these oblations are, as it were, to represent the team of the chariot.

vital airs he yokes it¹. With three (oblations) he yokes it,—there are three vital airs, the out-breathing, up-breathing, and through-breathing: it is with these he thus yokes it. Just below the shaft (he offers), for just below the shaft the horse is yoked;—with his hands, for by the hands the horse is yoked;—in moving round², for in moving round the horse is yoked.

11. The right yoke-horse he puts to first, then the left yoke-horse, then the right side-horse: for thus it is (done) among the gods, otherwise in human (practice). Let him not yoke that (chariot³) again, lest he should yoke again the yoked one; but let him give away the vehicle, thinking, 'I shall reap the benefit of the yoking of it⁴.' They carry it as far as the Adhvaryu's dwelling, holding it right upwards, for above is that (Agni). He presents it to the Adhvaryu, for it is he that performs therewith. Let him, however, (not) assign it to him (till) the time of the offering-gifts.

12. He then offers the 'Lightsome'⁵ oblations.

¹ Or, he supplies him (Agni).

² According to Kâty. Sr. XVIII, 6, 1, 2, the Adhvaryu first takes a double handful of air from beyond the east side of the Vedi, and offers it below the right (south) shaft; then from beyond the north side to be offered up below the left shaft, and lastly from beyond the south side to be offered below the shaft where the right side-horse would be yoked. In each case the girth (or yoke-tie) is to be carried round in the same way as if a real horse were yoked.

³ Sâyana takes it to mean 'that horse'; and according to Kâty. Sr. XVIII, 6, 3-5, the carriage is to be carried to the Adhvaryu's house, and, at the time when the dakshinâs are presented to the priests, it is to be given to that priest along with three horses. The Brâhmana, however, does not seem to mention the horses.

⁴ Literally, of the yoked one.

⁵ These oblations are here called 'ruṇmatî,' because the three

For now the whole Agni was completed; he now wished for brilliance (*ruḥ*), and the gods, by means of these lightsome (oblations), endowed him with brilliance; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer) now endow him therewith.

13. And, again, as to why he offers the lightsome oblations. When Pragâpati was dismembered, his brilliance departed from him. When the gods restored him, they, by means of these lightsome oblations, endowed him with brilliance; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer) endow him therewith.

14. [He offers, with, Vâg. S. XVIII, 46-48], 'O Agni, what lights of thine in the sun¹ . . .,' 'O ye gods, what lights of yours are in the sun . . .'¹—'Bestow thou light upon our priests, (work thou light in our kings, light in our people and Sûdras, bestow light upon me by thy light)!' He thus says 'light' each time,—light is immortality: it is immortality he thus bestows upon him.

15. He then offers one relating to Varuṇa. That whole Agni has now been completed, and he now is the deity Varuṇa: it is to him that he offers this oblation, and by the oblation he makes him (Agni) a deity, for that one alone is a deity to whom offering is made, but not that one to whom (offering is) not (made). With a verse addressed to Varuṇa (he offers): he thus gratifies him by his own self, by his own deity.

16. And, again, as to why he offers one relating

verses used with them contain the word '*ruḥ*,' being prayers for the bestowal of light.

¹ These two verses had already been used in laying down the Dviyagus bricks; see VII, 4, 2, 21.

to Varuṇa. When Pragâpati was dismembered, his strength departed from him. When the gods restored him they, by *this* (oblation), bestowed strength upon him; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer) bestow it upon him. With a verse addressed to Varuṇa (he offers),—Varuṇa is the ruling power, and ruling power means strength: it is thus by strength that he bestows strength upon him.

17. [He offers, with, Vâg. S. XVIII, 49], 'For this I appeal to thee, worshipping thee with prayer,'—that is, 'For that I beseech thee, worshipping thee with prayer;'—'for this the Sacrificer imploresth thee with offerings,'—that is, 'for this, this Sacrificer implores thee with offerings;'—'without wrath listen thou here, O Varuṇa!'—that is, 'without anger listen thou here to us, O Varuṇa!'—'take not our life from us, O far-ruler!'—he thereby gives utterance to a surrender of his own self.

18. He then offers the Arkâsvamedha-santati¹ oblations. The light (arka), doubtless, is this fire (Agni), and the Asvamedha (horse-sacrifice) is yonder sun,—when created, these two were separate: by means of these oblations the gods drew them together and connected them; and in like manner does this (Sacrificer), by means of these oblations, now draw them together and connect them.

19. [He offers, with, Vâg. S. XVIII, 50], 'Heaven-like heat, hail!'—the heat, doubtless, is yonder sun; he thus establishes yonder sun in Agni.

20. 'Heaven-like flame, hail!'—the flame is

¹ That is, the joining together of the fire and the horse-sacrifice.

this Agni : he thus establishes this Agni in yonder sun.

21. 'The Heaven-like shining one, hail!'—the shining one, doubtless, is yonder sun : he places him again up there.

22. 'Heaven-like light, hail!'—the light is this Agni : he places him again here (on the fire-altar).

23. 'The heaven-like Sûrya, hail!'—Sûrya, doubtless, is yonder sun : he thus places yonder sun highest of all this (universe), whence he is the highest of all this (universe).

24. These are five oblations he offers,—the fire-altar consists of five layers, a year of five seasons, and Agni is the year : as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, with so much he thus draws together and connects those two.

25. And as to why he says, 'Heaven-like heat, hail! heaven-like flame, hail!'—these indeed are names of this fire : he thereby gratifies these, and by the offering he makes them a deity ; for only that one is a deity to whom an oblation is offered, but not that to whom it is not offered. Moreover, by naming them, he thus places them on this fire-altar.

26. These are five oblations he offers,—the fire-altar consists of five layers, and the year of five seasons, and Agni is the year : as great as Agni is, as great as is his measure, by so much food he thus gratifies him.

27. Now as to the insertion ¹ of (any other) oblations. If he should know any oblation supplied with a brâhmaṇa (dogmatic explanation) let him offer it at

¹ Or, location, proper place ; cf. p. 138, note 1.

this time; for it is for (the obtainment of his) wishes that he yokes this chariot, and whatsoever oblation he offers on this occasion he offers as one that is (to be) fulfilled.

28. As to this they say, 'Let him not offer (any additional oblations), lest he should do what is excessive.' Let him, nevertheless, offer them; for it is for (special) wishes that these oblations are offered, and in wishes there is nothing excessive.

THIRD BRÂHMANA.

PREPARATORY RITES OF THE SOMA-SACRIFICE.

1. Having now returned (to the hall), he, at the proper time, throws up the *Dhishṇyas*¹ (fire-hearths)—these hearths are fires: he thus builds up fire-altars. They are the clansmen, and the built-up fire-altar is the chieftaincy: he thus sets up both the chieftaincy and the clan. The former (altar) he builds up first, then these (hearths): thus he sets up the clan after setting up the chieftaincy.

2. That (fire-altar) is a single one: he thus makes the chieftaincy to attach to a single (person), and (social) distinction to attach to a single (person). The others are numerous: he thus bestows multiplicity on the clan.

¹ A Soma-sacrifice being about to be performed on the newly erected fire-altar, now properly consecrated, all the necessary preparatory business and ceremonial enjoined for such a sacrifice have now to be gone through in the way detailed in part ii of this translation. The author here only alludes to those points in the Soma-ritual in regard to which the present performance offers any special feature either additional to, or modificatory of, the ordinary ceremonial. The construction of the *Dhishṇyas*, or fire-hearths of the different priests (for which see part ii, p. 148, note 4), is one of these points.